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THE TIMES

35P

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A FATHER'S AGONY
My Celine, victim of a monster
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BEST FOR BOOKS



Julia Neuberger on the boys who escaped Hitler
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SIR CLIFF AS HEATHCLIFF
Brontë rock opens to blue-rinse hysteria
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BEST FOR JOBS



- ☐ IT Executive 140K
- ☐ Consultant 70K
- ☐ Buyer 60K
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Dunblane parents to fight on

160,000 handguns are to be destroyed

BY PHILIP WEBSTER
POLITICAL EDITOR

THE parents of Dunblane last night pledged to continue their fight to have all handguns banned after the Government announced the most drastic firearm curbs yet in response to the massacre of 16 children and their teacher last March.

Some 160,000 of the 200,000 handguns held legally in Britain — including all automatic weapons — will have to be handed in and destroyed, but that did not satisfy the families, who insisted that there should be no compromise with public safety.

"They could have gone one step further and banned handguns completely," said Dr Mick North, whose daughter Sophie was among those killed by Thomas Hamilton.

Michael Howard, who said the Government's plans would give Britain some of the toughest gun control laws in the world, was also criticised by some Tory MPs who believed that he had gone too far, and by the gun industry, which faces ruin. More than 3,000 jobs could be put at risk, a quarter of the 2,100 gun dealers in the country could close and few of the 2,500 clubs are likely to survive.

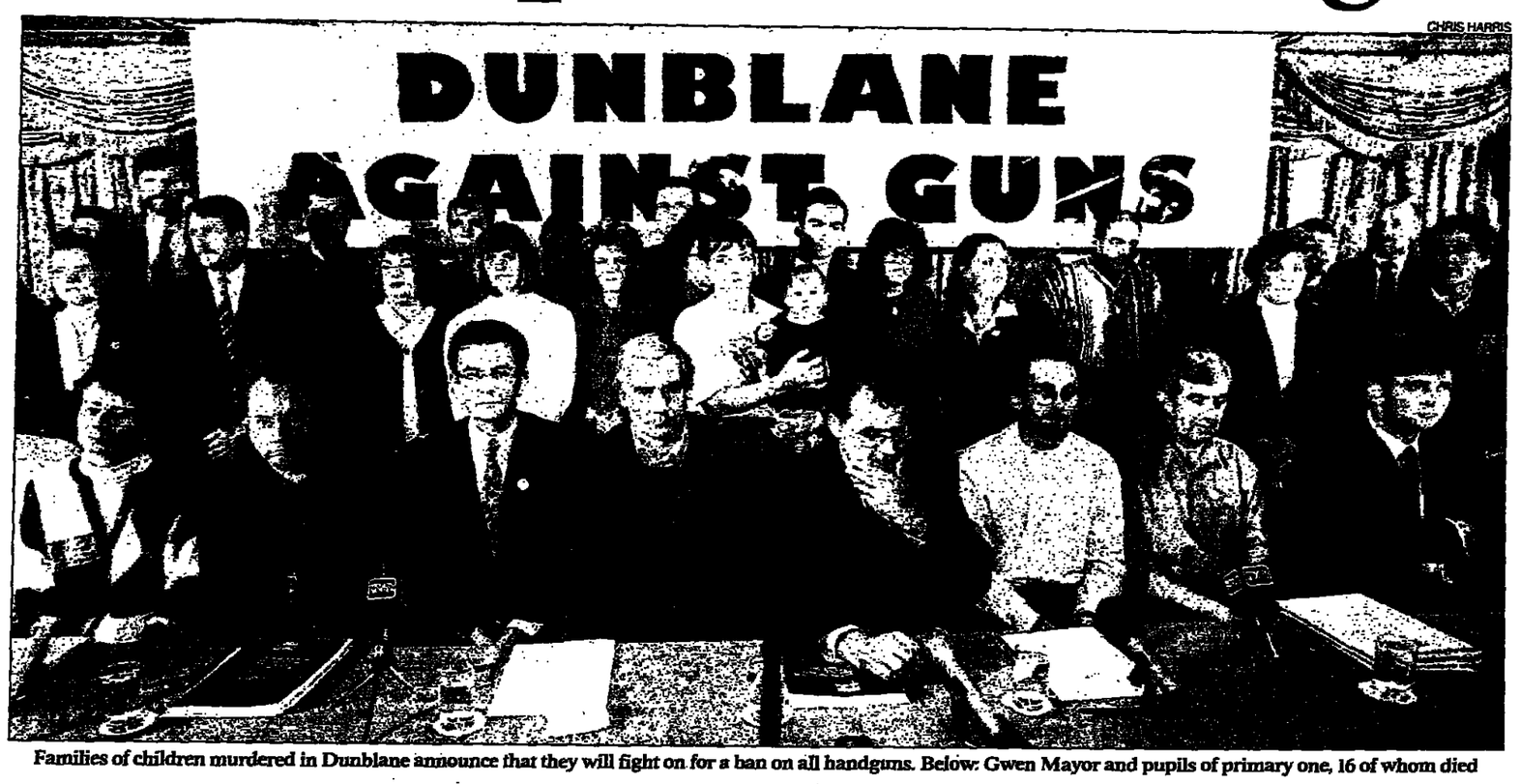
Under the Government's proposals, owners who surrender their guns will receive an average of £150 compensation per weapon, at a cost to the Government of about £24 million. The 40,000 smaller guns that will remain legal will have to be kept at gun clubs which will have to be turned into fortresses to remain in operation.

The proposals go beyond the measures recommended by Lord Cullen in his 174-page report on the massacre, which prompted the resignation yesterday of the senior policeman who renewed Thomas Hamilton's gun licence. Douglas McMurdo, the Assistant Inspector of Constabulary for Scotland, who as Deputy Chief Constable of Central Scotland was one of the first on the scene on March 13, was singled out for criticism in the report, which focused on the force's handling of firearms certificates and the "unacceptable" mistakes it made on the day of the shootings when some families had to wait for five hours to learn that their children had been killed.

Mr McMurdo said yesterday that he was resigning with great sadness. The tragedy had been at the forefront of his mind for seven months, but he still firmly believed that the decisions he had taken were the only ones available to him.

Mr McMurdo's resignation was announced in the Commons by Michael Forsyth, the Scottish Secretary, in a statement in which he described Hamilton's attack on the school as "an act of calculated wickedness".

MPs were also told that the Government intended immediately to implement Lord Cullen's recommendations on tighter security for schools and a new national network to monitor those entrusted with the care and supervision of young people in clubs.



CHRIS HARRIS

Families of children murdered in Dunblane announce that they will fight on for a ban on all handguns. Below: Gwen Mayor and pupils of primary one, 16 of whom died



Under the new gun restrictions, all clubs will need a licence from the Home or Scottish Secretary, and will have to meet stringent security standards. These will cover the reinforcement of walls to protect weapons, the safes in which guns will be kept, the strength of perimeter fences, the provision of burglar alarms linked to police stations, the installation of metal detectors to prevent guns being illicitly removed, and a regime of regular and stringent inspection to ensure club security is adequate.

Other measures include a ban, except for deer shooting, on the use of expanding or dum-dum ammunition; severe new restrictions on mail-order purchases; a new system requiring firearms applicants to provide two references; and a new power to allow a chief officer to revoke a firearms certificate if he feels the gun owner does not have a good reason for possessing it.

In addition, there will be a new requirement for all handgun shooters to obtain a firearms certificate, ending the present system under which a person without a certificate can shoot at an approved club. Gun clubs will also be required to inform the police when a certificate holder ceases to be a member or has not attended a meeting for a year.

There will also be a new offence of failing to notify the police whenever a firearm or shotgun was sold, transferred, deactivated or destroyed and a ban on the sale of guns through the post.

Dismayed gun enthusiasts said last night the Government plans would handicap British competitors in a sport where Britain had long succeeded. They claimed the ban would do nothing to prevent another Dunblane and would lead to the closure of hundreds of businesses and the loss of thousands of jobs. They were further angered by the initial compensation package which does not yet include any planned payment to dealers, importers, wholesalers or clubs who have stocks or cannot meet the new safety requirements.

The British Shooting Sports Council accused Parliament of caving in to "popular prejudices" and claimed shooters should have the same rights as any other sportsmen or minority.

The people of Dunblane, however, insisted that the new rules did not go far enough and issued a statement saying: "The Home Office submission to Lord Cullen contained the following sentence: 'There are no licensing arrangements which could give an absolute guarantee that no legitimate gun owner will ever misuse his gun.' We agree with this and therefore the choice is clear: ban guns completely or take the chance that someone will misuse his gun."

As expected, Labour announced that it would vote for a total ban when the legislation comes before the Commons next month. At least four Conservatives have said that they will join them and up to eight more may also defy the Government, which is unlikely to grant a free vote on the issue. The Liberal Democrats are generaly supportive of the Government's stance, but have not declared their hand, and the vote is certain to be tight.

In the Commons yesterday, the former Cabinet minister David Mellor was cheered by Labour and heckled by his own side when he said "the game is up for handguns now".

Labour meanwhile called for the closure of the House of Commons shooting club — one of the few in the country that can already meet the strict security rules outlined by the Government yesterday.

Matthew Parris, page 2
Cullen report and reaction, pages 4 and 5
Magnus Linklater, page 22
Leading article and Letters, page 23

Where life can never return to normal

BY MAGNUS LINKLATER

WAITING for Cullen has been the watchword in Dunblane for so long that there was a sense almost of disbelief yesterday when the report was finally published. "Is that really it?" said a shopper, turning to hear the news. "Is that the end of it?"

The answer, sadly, is no. For some there was a weary acknowledgement that it would take more than Lord Cullen's findings to draw a line under the nightmare that Dunblane has been living with since March. For others, still coping with their grief, the report was simply another milestone along a troubled road with no clear end in sight.

But for the parents of murdered children, the bereaved families and the wounded teachers who have formed the potent group Dunblane Against Guns, it marked the beginning of a new and determined campaign. Initially it will be aimed at securing the outright ban of all handguns — including the .22 weapons that the Government is still prepared to sanction — but it might culminate in something even more ambitious.

There was talk yesterday about a total ban on all privately owned guns in Britain. "It needs more thought and it has practical problems," one parent said, "but ultimately we must ensure the safety of the public from all guns."

Ann Pearston, the articulate spokeswoman of the Snowdrop Campaign, said she was concentrating only on persuading the Government to go one step further and ban all handguns. "This is a compro-

Continued on page 2, col 4

Libel case order to pulp Venables book

BY JASON NISSÉ

A HIGH Court judge will order today that all unsold copies of Terry Venables's autobiography be pulped as part of a settlement of the libel action against the former England football manager by Alan Sugar, chairman of Tottenham Hotspur.

Mr Venables and his publishers, Michael Joseph, are paying £100,001 in damages as well as a large part of the costs of the case, which has lasted for nearly two years.

Mr Sugar will also read a statement in court rejecting 15 accusations against him in the book, *Venables*, including claims that he altered board minutes and misused shareholders' funds.

The autobiography, published while Mr Venables was in charge of the England team, was serialised in a Sunday newspaper. Tony Berry, another Spurs director, sued the paper and that case has been settled out of court.

The book concentrated on the time when Mr Venables and Mr Sugar ran Spurs and covered issues such as their deal to take control of the club when it was in trouble in 1991; the sale of Paul Gascoigne to the Italian club Lazio; and Mr Sugar's ousting of Mr Venables in 1993.

Mr Venables still has one case outstanding against Spurs, an unfair dismissal claim being brought by Edennote, a company Mr Venables used for personal business dealings, but which has collapsed.

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"How do I know you're not having a hotel tryst with a Czech model?"

Ousted chief is awarded £3m

A court has awarded John Clark, who was ousted as chief executive of the business services group BET, more than £3 million in compensation. Mr Clark, 55, had been willing to settle for a third of the sum. The ruling is likely to influence future cases involving executive pay.....Page 27

Euro loophole

The European Commission approved a scheme for stiff penalties against states which run high budget deficits inside monetary union but left open a loophole.....Page 13

Gaddafi hires British firm to spruce up his image

BY ANDREW PIERCE, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

A BRITISH political lobbying company has been hired by Colonel Muammar Gaddafi to improve Libya's image and end its international isolation.

The disclosure of the award of the contract to GJW International, only weeks after the latest cash-for-questions affair, will cause further controversy about the activities of lobbyists. The company is considering inviting ministers to visit Libya in an effort to boost trade links.

Libya, the subject of wide-ranging United Nations trade sanctions since the Lockerbie bomb in 1988, approached several British lobbyists. GJW International, part of the London-based GJW Government Relations, won the contract, which is reputed to be worth a six-figure sum.

Andrew Gifford, the chief executive and a former adviser to Sir David Steel, clinched the deal after flying to Tripoli this year to meet senior members of the Libyan Government. He denied he had met Colonel Gaddafi. Wilf Weeks, chairman of GJW, who is a former political adviser to Sir Edward Heath, has also been to North Africa. Tony Hutt, another senior director, is a former employee of Conservative Central Office.

Mr Gifford, who is said to be paid £250,000 a year, is chairman and founder member of the newly formed Association of Political Consultants which was established in an attempt to improve the image of lobbyists.

Mr Weeks said last night: "We have nothing to hide. We are not stupid. We thought carefully before we took the contract. We know that the Libyans are not angels."

Dr Jim Swire, whose daughter Flora was killed in the Lockerbie bombing, was scathing. He said: "This [Libyan] approach is not honourable. It is based on buying your way out of it, which is what Colonel Gaddafi can do with his money."

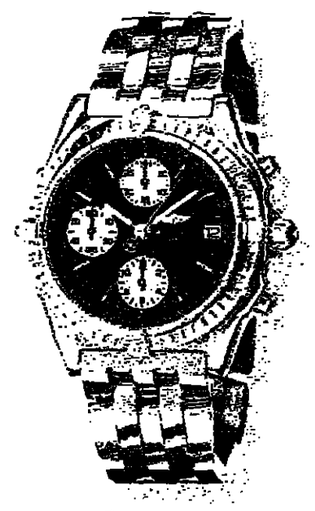
Diplomatic relations between Britain and Tripoli were severed by Baroness Thatcher in 1985 after Constable Yvonne Fletcher was killed by a shot from the Libyan People's Bureau in London. The UN sanctions were imposed after Libya refused to surrender two men suspected of carrying out the Lockerbie bombing, which killed 270 people. Libya has refused permission for the two men to stand trial in Britain.

The UN sanctions include a ban on the supply of arms, aviation-related equipment and a range of oil industry equipment, and a freeze on Libyan foreign assets. Sir Nicholas Bonsor, a Foreign Office minister, repeated in a Commons debate this year that the sanctions had to stay because of Colonel Gaddafi's "support for terrorism and his aggression against the West".

GJW is paid by the Libyan Government to monitor press and diplomatic comment in Britain and to suggest ways of improving the country's standing with Government and business.

Mr Weeks, who said that he suspected people "might make mischief" out of the contract, said: "It is for six months. It will be reviewed. I had hoped it would be renewed. It probably won't be now."

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United in grief and in inter-party sniping

MATTHEW PARRIS
POLITICAL SKETCH

On sombre occasions such as the statement on Lord Cullen's report, a parliamentary sketch-writer well knows what is expected of him: an account which describes a hushed chamber: packed, subdued, MPs "grim-faced" and "united in grief".

The impression to be conveyed is that on these occasions our Members of Parliament are heedless of advantage, intent only on what is best for the country. We will say that such occasions show "the House at its best".

There is an element of wishful thinking in this. Though it would be possible, without obvious untruth, to offer such an account of yesterday's proceedings, it would not be the whole truth. No MP is inhuman; but most keep an eye on party advantage. They know their opponents will. Yesterday's proceedings, dignified and principled as in part they were, did not lack that undercurrent.

The chamber was not packed. Twice as many attend Budgets. There were 80 MPs on the Tory benches and a total of 108 opposition MPs. There are 650 MPs at Westminster.

Nobody who listened to Michael Forsyth could doubt his sincerity over Dunblane. But I also noted that his statement took an early reprisal against the Labour Party, which had made an address by Anne Pearston of the Snowdrop campaign a highlight of its conference at Blackpool. The party used the opportunity to announce its response to Dunblane in advance of Lord Cullen's report.

That report, said Forsyth, had been ready at the end of September. "But I received a letter from the Hon Member for Hamilton [George Robertson] saying it would be wrong for the report to be published during any one of the party conferences'. [So, with Labour and Liberal Democrat approval] I asked Lord Cullen to delay submitting his report to me until Monday 14 October." The implied charge was clear: Labour had stolen an early advantage.

Nobody who listened to Mr Robertson's reply could doubt the strength or sincerity of his feelings either. He thanked Mr Forsyth warmly for his consideration towards him on visits to Dunblane. "Two fathers, united in grief, members of the human family." But Mr Robertson took a small but calculated swipe at the Tories. He congratulated them on the "shift in the Government's position" towards his own party's position on the Cullen recommendations.

This rankled with Forsyth. There was no shift, he said. The report had been issued only on Monday, the Government's position decided on Tuesday. It had taken no previous position. This was technically true.

The Liberal Democrats' Jim Wallace then discreetly let us know that the Government's additions to Cullen's proposals were "more in line with our own submissions".

Far from being the House at its best, there is something disturbing about these occasions. Real emotions are interlaced with covert grabs for political advantage, and always with an eye on the populace. An atmosphere in which a minister can suggest that those recruiting voluntary workers might be informed by the police not only of past convictions, but also of prosecutions contemplated but never proceeded with, and receive no more inquisitive a response than "hear, hear", is the House at its most alarming.

☐ *Yesterday's sketch construed John Major as implying that Tony Blair's son is privately educated. He is not, nor did Mr Major imply it.*

Queen to take control of royal travel budget

BY ALAN HAMILTON

THE Queen is to cut costs by assuming direct financial control of the Royal Family's travel arrangements. She will take over from the two government departments which currently fund and run the Royal Squadron of aircraft and the royal train, and will be looking for substantial savings.

Although the initiative has come from the Queen herself, it reflects continuing public disquiet about the cost of monarchy, and pressure for the Buckingham Palace accounts to be more open to public inspection.

From next April, if Parliament approves, Buckingham Palace will be paid an annual block grant by the Department of Transport and will be left to run its own transport affairs. A detailed report and balance sheet will be published each year, and the accounts scrutinised regularly by the National Audit Office.

Palace sources said that the move, announced by the Prime Minister in a Commons written answer yesterday, would entail no additional cost to taxpayers and was likely to lead to significant savings in the long term without compromising national prestige, safety or security. Since the Queen took over direct responsibility for running the royal palaces through a grant-in-aid from the Department of National Heritage she has cut costs by a quarter over five years.

Royal travel currently costs £9 million a year, most of it paid by the Ministry of Defence to operate what used to be known as the Queen's Flight — three BAe 146 aircraft and several helicopters — and the rest by the Department of Transport for the royal train. Funding also comes from the Foreign Office if members of the Royal Family travel on state business abroad.

But the figure reflects running costs, not capital expenditure, and various peripheral items. The last substantial capital expenditure was in 1991, when the MoD paid £14 million for an additional 146 aircraft, taking total capital expenditure on aircraft since 1986 to £40 million.

The new arrangements do not cover the Royal Yacht *Britannia*, which is paid for by the Ministry of Defence, and which will be decommissioned next year. Proposals for a replacement are being considered by the Cabinet Office; a yacht funded by private industry is one possibility.



The Queen's initiative is intended to cut costs

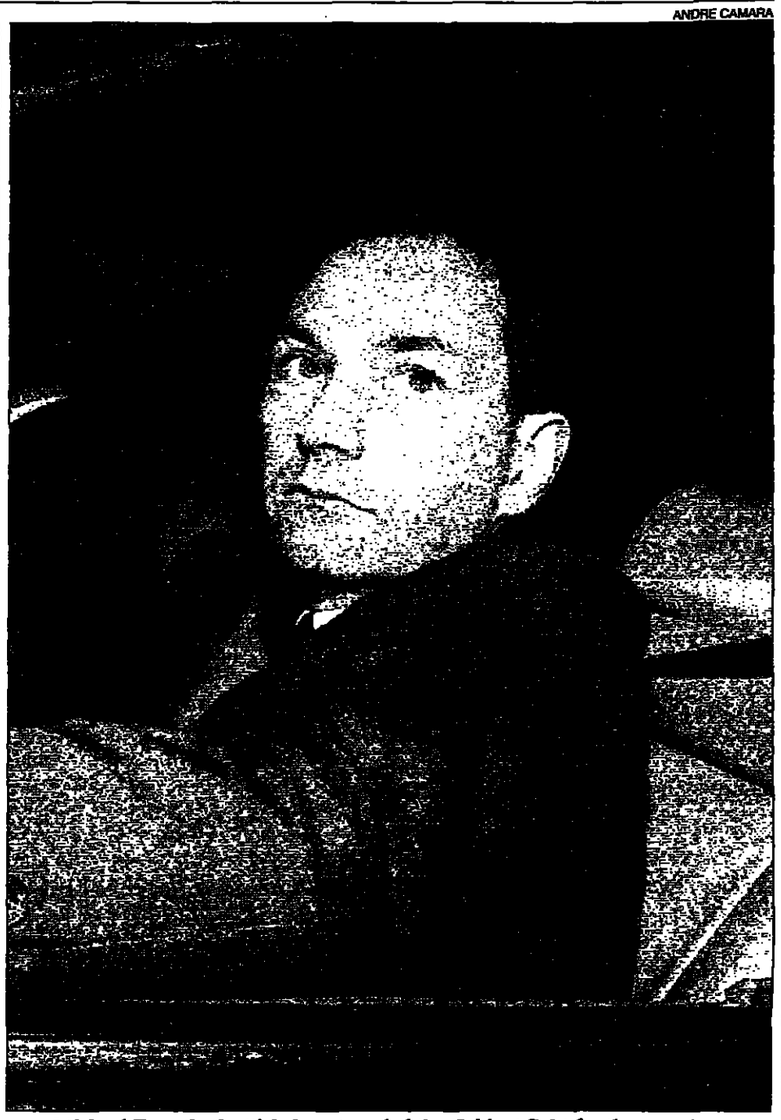
Running the travel budget will be the responsibility of Michael Peat, a former City accountant who is Keeper of the Privy Purse and the Palace's director of finance. Since he arrived at his post in 1991 he has earned a reputation throughout the Royal Household as an unstinting enemy of unnecessary spending.

The Palace said last night that the arrangements had followed long-term discussions by the Way Ahead Group, the informal gathering of the Royal Family and their senior advisers which meets twice a year to review strategic planning. Details are believed to have been finalised when the group met at Balmoral last month, and then to have been passed to Downing Street.

According to Palace sources, the main benefits of the new scheme will be reduced cost to the taxpayer, better disclosure of how and why the money is spent, and better accountability by linking travel requirements directly to financial responsibility for them.

The Queen's financial staff are likely to look much more closely at all travel and say they will better placed than in the past to decide on the most cost-effective means of getting members of the Royal Family to their engagements.

ANDRE CAMARA



Michael Forsyth, Scottish Secretary, led the Cabinet fight for the guns ban

The grief of Dunblane

Continued from page 1

mise on public safety," she announced. "A .22 weapon is capable of killing. It's accurate, light, and easily concealed. By retaining even these weapons, it is leaving the door open on public safety." She said that she was reserving the option of standing against Tory candidates who backed the Government line, including Michael Forsyth, who holds the Stirling constituency with a wafer-thin majority. "We voted you all in," she said, "and we can vote you all out."

For those in Dunblane who feel less directly affected, talk like that is greeted with concern. They would prefer to concentrate on rebuilding their lives. "For the majority of the community, Cullen is a milestone in the process of returning to normality," the Rev Maxwell Craig, General Secretary of Action of Churches Together in Scotland, said. "For the families of course, there is no normality to return to. I respect what they are doing, but I am sad that they are talking about more campaigns. It's a distraction from the more difficult long-term task of coming to terms with what happened."

Pat Greenhill, the former Provost of Dunblane, conceded that there was some tension between the campaigners and the others — and that this might grow. "Dunblane is still a united community," she said, "but there is divergence between those who were directly involved and who want to keep Dunblane in the public eye, and the others who would prefer all that to stop. All these events, the Cullen report, anniversaries like Christmas, are still very difficult for us. An unexpected death, for instance, affects us far more deeply than it would in normal circumstances." But For Dr Mick North, who lost his daughter Sophie in the tragedy and was one of those facing the media under the Dunblane Against Guns banner last night, it is not as easy as that. "We're each going to have to get through this at different speeds. Some of us will never get over it. We are never going to have our children again. Given the circumstances in which our children died, it's not going to be possible for us to hide away, to shelter others by not talking about it. Some people hope they can get back to normality. Our lives will never be normal again."

Back at Dunblane Primary School, the gymnasium where the shooting happened that terrible morning last March has been razed. The parents will meet soon to decide what should be done with it. Mike Robins, head of the school board, admitted that the teachers were still having difficulty in coping with emotions. "They are doing their damnedest to keep control over their feelings," he said, "but I wouldn't underestimate the problems."

Willetts is to face inquiry over misuse of influence

BY ANDREW PIERCE, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

MPs approved a wide-ranging investigation yesterday into allegations that a minister sought to influence a Commons committee inquiry into the cash for questions affair.

Their decision has thrust David Willetts, a close adviser of the Prime Minister, into the latest chapter of the sleaze allegations.

The Labour MP Tony Benn used a short Commons emergency debate to decry the damage done to the reputation of Parliament by its failure to deal with allegations against Tory MPs that were more than two years old. Mr Willetts, the Paymaster General, who was on the government front bench during the debate, has pledged to cooperate with the newly formed Commons Select Committee on Standards and Privileges.

The MP, a former member of Margaret Thatcher's Downing Street policy unit, faces accusations that two years ago, when he was a junior government Whip, he tried to influence the outcome of a Commons committee examining claims that Neil Hamilton, the former Trade Minister, had taken cash for questions.

Mr Willetts, the MP for Havant, has claimed that his handwritten note — the so called "smoking gun memo" — was taken out of context. He has offered to help the inquiry in any way he can.

The Commons agreed without a vote after a short debate for a full inquiry to be held into the claims that Mr Willetts had brought "improper pressure" to bear on the now defunct committee of members' interests. Sir Geoffrey Johnson Smith, the Tory MP who was chairman of the committee at the time, stepped down from the standards and privileges committee while it examines the Willetts memo.

Nolan's support, page 8

NEWS IN BRIEF

Britain 'is target' for pollutant smugglers

Britain is becoming the target of organised criminals who smuggle in ozone-damaging chemicals in defiance of international treaties, John Gummer, the Environment Secretary, said in London yesterday.

Speaking at the first conference on environmental crime, he said that in Florida the size of the trade in banned chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) — found in refrigerators, air conditioning systems and aerosols — was now second only to cocaine. "We now believe the trade is spreading to Europe." Experts claim that the smugglers are supplying the motor trade and big companies reluctant to switch to air conditioning systems that run on ozone-friendly chemicals.

Meters 'will save water'

Millions of people will be on water meters by 2000, Environment Department officials conceded. Widespread metering is a key feature in the drive to conserve water and cut the need to build reservoirs or take more from waterways. Many of the 4.4 million new households forecast by 2016 will have meters fitted. Water companies are also pursuing a string of incentives. Studies show consumption falls by between 10 and 30 per cent in metered homes.

French flights cancelled

Flights to France will be badly disrupted today by a 24-hour strike by French civil servants. British Airways is expected to operate only two return flights between Heathrow and Paris Charles de Gaulle airports. Nearly 50 BA flights to and from France are expected to be cancelled. Air France said it was likely to have only three London-Paris return flights. Ferry services and Eurostar and Le Shuttle trains are expected to be unaffected.

Paris threat, page 13

UUP MP to be independent

Cecil Walker, the Ulster Unionist MP for North Belfast, is to stand as an independent Unionist at the next election. He claimed right-wing opponents in his constituency association were trying to oust him. David Trimble, the party leader, called on Mr Walker to reconsider. Mr Trimble said: "There has been, to my knowledge, no conspiracy to oust him." There are fears among Unionists that a split Unionist vote could hand North Belfast to Sinn Fein.

Quinlivan is remanded

Nessan Quinlivan, who is awaiting a High Court appeal against extradition to Britain, was charged at the Special Criminal Court in Dublin with falsely imprisoning a man in Limerick in August. He was remanded in custody until November 13. Quinlivan's extradition is being sought over his escape from Brixton prison in 1991. He was freed from Portlaoise prison last November under the Irish Government's early release for republican prisoners.

Pollution 'may stunt growth'

Babies born in heavily polluted areas may suffer stunted growth, researchers have reported. While the results relate to Eastern Europe, the researchers say the chemicals responsible are also common in the West. Dr Frederica Perera of Columbia University, New York, found that Polish babies exposed to high levels of PM10, the fine particles found in diesel exhausts, are born with smaller heads and bodies.

BBC launches Bible series

An animated series of nine Old Testament stories was launched by the BBC yesterday in an effort to familiarise children with the Bible. *Testament*, a £5 million series involving animators and producers from Moscow and Wales, is expected to be used in thousands of schools as part of religious education. The first programme, *Creation and the Flood*, was shown on BBC2 last night.

Quango posts criticised

Chairmen of Government committees and quangos still prefer the "old boy" network for selecting members than open advertising, according to the first annual report by Sir Len Peach, the Commissioner for Public Appointments. He rebuked three chairmen for this and said he wished to see more women and more members of ethnic minorities coming forward for the 89,000 jobs on nearly 900 quangos.

Man cleared of stabbing

A man was yesterday cleared of stabbing a cancer specialist. Last October, Dr David Jenkins, a clinical oncologist, of Rainham, Kent, was squirted with a liquid by two assailants, on his doorstep. While shielding his face, he was knifed in the shoulder and loin. David Stammers, 31, of Chatham, who denied wounding with intent to cause grievous bodily harm, was found not guilty by a jury at Maidstone Crown Court.

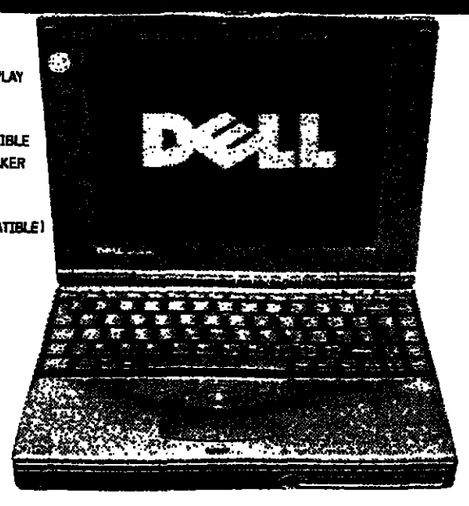
Cannabis 'cures alcoholism'

An Oxford-educated former hippy who was found growing 845 cannabis plants at his farm told Truro Crown Court that he was involved in cannabis research and believed the drug was the best cure for alcoholism. Robin Scott and his wife, Adrienne, both 47, from Crylla, near Liskeard, Cornwall, denied various charges of producing, supplying and possessing the drug. The trial continues

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'We survive more than we live,' says father as lorry driver is jailed for life

Pitiless murderer haunts thoughts of French family

BY A STAFF REPORTER

THE father of Celine Figard spoke last night of the daughter he had lost to an "imbecile" killer. After Stuart Morgan, 37, was sentenced to life imprisonment for murdering the 19-year-old French student, Bernard Figard said he could not understand how the lorry driver could live with his crime.

"I can't believe he actually pleaded not guilty, but inside of him he knows what he did. It didn't seem to move him or affect him at all when he heard the graphic descriptions of Celine's ordeal.

"I wonder if he has any nightmares about what he did to my daughter. How does he feel when he remembers the desperate shout of his powerless victim? How does he feel when he remembers his own hands covered with my beautiful daughter's blood?"

M Figard, who attended Worcester Crown Court every day with his wife, Martine, said through an interpreter: "This man will never pay enough for what he did. I hope he spends the rest of his days rotting in jail.

"Throughout the court case he looked so detached from reality as if he was a total stranger who didn't really belong there. I just felt sickened by his behaviour.

"When I first laid eyes on him in May he just had a blank look on his face and he didn't seem to feel anything or to show any remorse. He was just cold.

"I never really thought that Morgan could walk away from this, but my real fear throughout the case was that he may have pleaded insanity or diminished responsibility. That would have been all too easy for him.

"It is beyond my comprehension how a man who has committed such a horrible crime in a moment of madness could have been stupid enough not to get rid of the evidence. Far from that, this monstrous idiot kept my daughter's dead body in the back of his truck with him. What kind of imbecilic creature is he?

"Being there was like sharing our daughter's Calvary. The police did tell us everything, but it was still very hard to see Celine's belongings and to listen to the details of how she died. I felt like I was going through Celine's ordeal all over again myself."

He added that the family home in France was filled with memories. "Celine is everywhere and nowhere at the same time. Everything we do and everywhere we go we think of our daughter. The drawings she did when she was a little girl, the gifts she bought us when she was a child and teenager and all the little things that before we didn't really notice, now have great significance.

"When I walk past her bedroom I remember the sound of her voice as she sat doing her homework or opening the door to talk to us.

"I remember the noise of her feet when she was running in the house and sometimes I still think I can hear my little girl running around the house but then I realise it's all a nightmare and I'm dragged back to reality with a bang.

"In our living room we have put a lot of framed pictures of Celine on the wall; this is to remind us that Celine won't be physically with us again. She was such a lively girl with a lot of life to live.

"We miss her so much. Everybody misses her. People in the village still feel shock and outrage, so much so that some would have been ready to take a gun to Morgan if he had been freed.

"For a neighbour's daughter I know I would have felt the same things but it is my Celine who died and I don't feel I want revenge. Nothing will bring her back and I am also against capital punishment because I think it is too easy."

M Figard said his family had received support, but also hate mail. "But despite all this support and friendship offered from strangers we still get hate mail. These people don't even have the courage to sign their letters but we have had letters from all over France and even from Great Britain."

M Figard said he still feels anger that a second truck driver, Roger Bouvier, let his daughter go with Morgan despite having reservations. "Bouvier told the police, after Celine's disappearance, that Morgan had a strange look in his eye that he couldn't forget, that he didn't trust him. Bouvier was very upset, but if he didn't trust this man why the hell didn't he do anything to stop her going with him?

"A lot of people have told me that I am very strong but it is only an appearance. Our lives will never be the same and we survive more than we live. We have a duty to cope and we do this for Celine and for our three other children. We try to help each other and we all have different ways of reacting to our feelings. I have to go and work in my fields because Celine very rarely came out to work with me in the fields and that is the only real place where I can be alone with my thoughts.

"My wife took over Celine's newspaper delivery job in our village just as Celine used to. I think this way Martine feels that she is keeping Celine's memory alive." Mme Figard reacted so badly after Celine's disappearance that her husband had to hide from her that Celine had been raped.

M Figard said he had great sympathy for the parents of the murdered schoolgirl Caroline Dickinson, who was raped in a French youth hostel last summer.

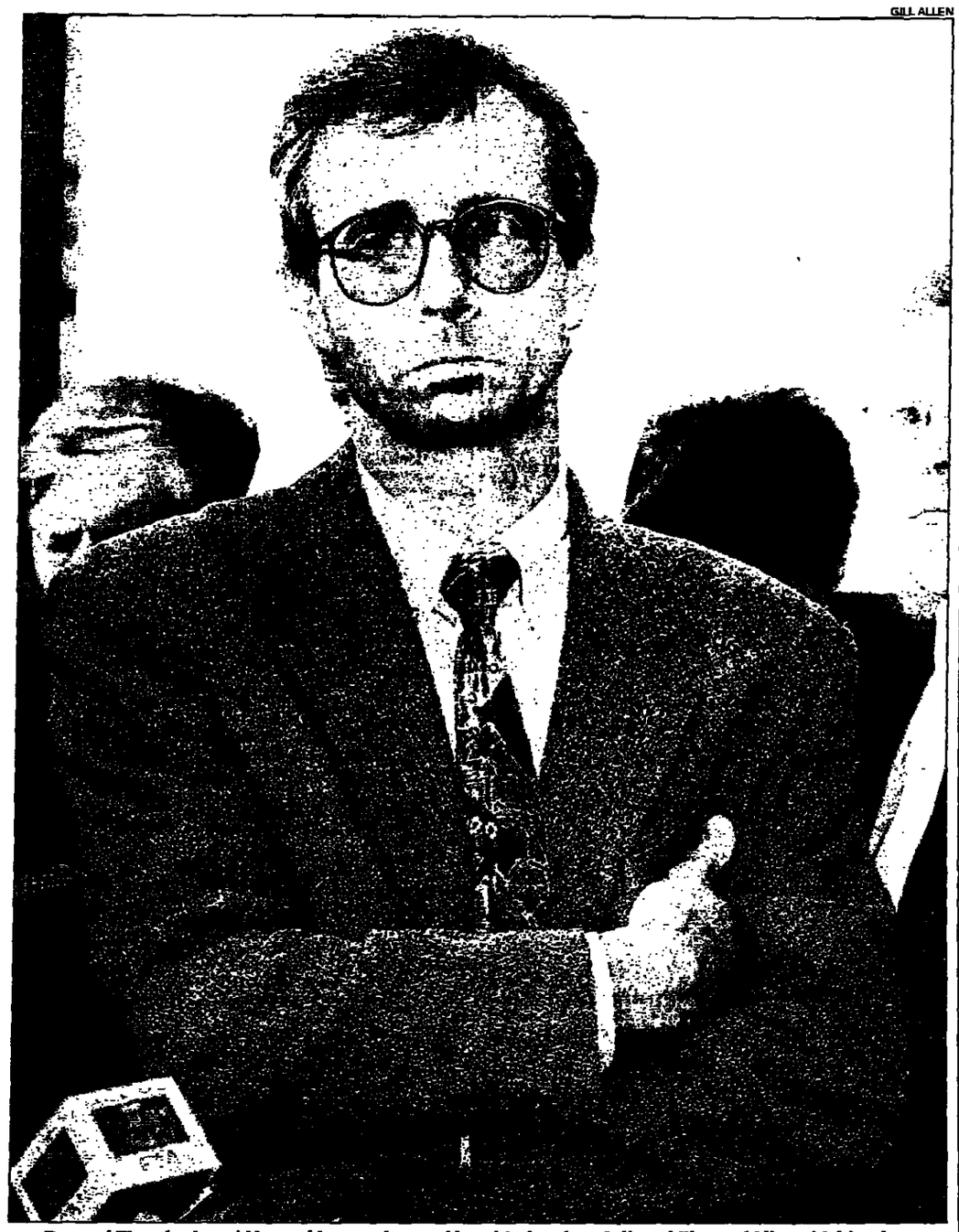
"I often think about Caroline Dickinson's parents. They lost their daughter in the same circumstances as us but Caroline's murderer has not been found. It must be an overwhelming weight to carry knowing that the bastard who murdered their daughter is still walking the streets and is free to do the same to another father's daughter."

He defended his daughter against Morgan's allegations that Celine consented to sex, adding: "I was very, very shocked, even though I knew in advance the defence would allege such things, that they said that my daughter had flirted with Morgan and the accusation that my daughter had taken drugs.

"Celine was not just like that. It was not in her nature. Morgan's madness at times honestly made me laugh, it was so ridiculous."

The Figards now want to live as normally as possible. M Figard said: "We cannot afford to think in terms of life with Celine or life without Celine. Our daughter has gone and our lives just go on."

GILL ALLEN



Bernard Figard, who said he could not understand how his daughter Celine's killer could live with his crime





Stuart Morgan denied murdering French student Celine Figard, whom he picked up in his lorry

Killer to be questioned about deaths of other women

BY RICHARD DUCE AND IAN MURRAY

STUART MORGAN is to be questioned about the killings of at least two other women. Like Mlle Figard, they were strangled and their naked bodies dumped close to motorway junctions.

Jailing Morgan for life at Worcester Crown Court, Mr Justice Latham told him: "You have been convicted on the clearest possible evidence. What you did to Celine has caused revulsion in the minds of all right-thinking people. There is only one sentence I can impose for this crime and that is life imprisonment. I consider you a dangerous man and will so report to the Home Secretary."

Morgan had raped Mlle Figard in the cab of his lorry before beating her over the head and strangling her on December 19 last year. He drove around the country for the next ten days with her body concealed in the lower bunk of the white cab. Eventually he left her body close to a lay-by near Worcester just off the M5.

The two unsolved killings about which Morgan is expected to be interviewed are those of Tracey Turner, 33, and Samo Paull, 20. Both were prostitutes whose bodies were found near the M1 in Leicestershire. Miss Turner vanished in March 1994 and Miss Paull at the end of December 1993. Although Morgan is to be questioned about other murders police were last night ruling out speculation that he was the so-called Midlands Ripper.

Even before he turned to murder, Morgan led a double life, with a wife and a mistress at opposite ends of the country. Although he was described by police as unremarkable, ordinary and plausible, psychologists said that he had the classic hallmarks of a criminal psychopath and seemed incapable of any lasting relationship with women unless he was cheating on them.

During much of his time in Poole, Dorset, with Glynda Parker, who was to become his second wife, Morgan was also living with Alyson Philbrock in Wigan, Greater Manchester. Both Miss Parker and Miss Philbrock believed that they alone shared their lives with the former heating engineer turned long-distance driver.

Morgan's job as a freelance driver for a Southampton firm took him all over the country as well as on foreign trips. He was to claim in court that he had often had sex with women hitchhikers. "I am of the character I always flirt with women," he told the jury.

Morgan started his affair with Miss Parker while still married to his first wife, Catherine Smith, the mother of their twin sons, Jamie and Martin. Only months after marrying and moving to Dorset he had met Miss Parker and embarked on a lengthy affair that eventually ended in marriage in 1994.

But even before he wed his second wife he was being unfaithful with Miss Philbrock, 32, after he met her through work at Bournemouth council. When she eventually moved north the affair continued.

Miss Philbrock, who six months ago married Andrew Norris, with whom she has a two-month-old boy, said: "I always took him at his word and his word was that I was the only woman in his life and that he loved me dearly — I had no reason to disbelieve him. He was obviously driving back and forth from his place to see me but I knew nothing about it at the time. I didn't know he was picking up hitchhikers or anything, this has all come as a great shock."

Dr Susan Edwards, of Buckingham University, who has written on sex crimes, said it was no surprise to dicover that Morgan was thought to be unremarkable. "Peter Sutcliffe, the Yorkshire Ripper, was unremarkable when police stopped him in a routine investigation. Obviously someone like this with his kind of job is able to conceal his tracks and move around freely," she said.

£4,000 reward offered for train robbers

BY MICHAEL HORSNELL

A REWARD of £4,000 was offered yesterday for the capture of two masked robbers, armed with a gun and a machete, who terrified passengers on a London commuter train and stripped them of money, credit cards and valuables.

Police are worried that the hold-up on a moving train, the first in Britain, could start a new crime fashion. British Transport Police are stepping up security and will study video footage taken at London stations. The attack, in which at least 25 people were robbed in the space of six minutes, occurred between London Bridge and Deptford, south London, on the line to Dartford.

Detective Chief Superintendent Peter Whent, head of British Transport Police operations, said: "This is a very serious, unique attack. It was horrendous and people were obviously extremely frightened." The attack took place on Tuesday on the 8.12pm train from Charing Cross. It had called at Waterloo East and London Bridge when the robbery took place. When the train arrived at Deptford at 8.25pm the two men fled.

They went into a lavatory on the train at an early stage of the short journey. The man with the machete, who had been wearing a rolled-up woollen hat, emerged with it unrolled as a balaclava. His accomplice had pulled a scarf over his face. Mr Whent said: "One of the suspects asked the other if he was ready. Then they went to different ends of one carriage and announced it was a robbery. They said they wanted everybody's money." They threatened passengers but no one was hurt.

He said the robbery differed from "steaming" on trains, where gangs of up to 20 jostled and intimidated passengers. Officers took statements from the victims and appealed for witnesses. Connex, the train operator, announced a £2,000 reward for information leading to arrests and conviction. Victims of Crime offered a further £2,000.

George Candlin, 34, a television production manager, said: "They rushed down the train telling people to put their wallets into the bags. They were waving the gun and the knife, which had a pretty nasty-looking blade. No one flipped, there was plenty of British calm. The one with the gun came to me. I didn't think it was for real but I wasn't about to find out, so I put my wallet in the bag."

Police hope to issue photo-fit pictures of the two attackers, who were in their twenties. The man carrying the 12-inch machete was described as black, of athletic build and dressed in a maroon sweatshirt, blue jogging trousers and white trainers. The man with the gun was of mixed-race or Mediterranean appearance, slightly built and with bad acne. He wore an off-white or cream jacket with vertical brown and red stripes, and a leather baseball cap.

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Ban is 'draconian alternative' to guns restriction

THE almost total ban on handguns announced by the Government yesterday goes much further than the key recommendation in Lord Cullen's lengthy report on the Dunblane shootings. He said a ban on multi-shot handguns would be a "draconian alternative" to his recommendation for the disabling of self-loading pistols and revolvers of all calibres.

Lord Cullen said the availability of self-loading pistols and revolvers held by individuals for target shooting should be restricted. He suggested they could be disabled while not in use by the removal of the slide assembly, which would be kept securely at a gun club, or the fitting of a blocked barrel by a club official.

Lord Cullen said that over the past 20 years there had been a considerable expansion in the use of larger calibre and high capacity handgun models. "These are based on military and police models. These are not target guns in the true and original sense." There had also been a growth in combat shooting. "It has led some shooters to don the trappings of combat, such as holsters and camouflage clothing. It has caused others to feel uneasy about what appears to be the use of guns as symbols of personal power."

The multi-shot handgun had "the capacity to kill or injure a great number of people within a short space of time", he said. "I have no doubt that if Thomas Hamilton had chosen to do so he could have killed every person in the gym."

Lord Cullen's recommendations included:

☐ Certification system: police inquiry into an applicant's background must be supplied in advance with any information about a change of circumstances and any reason for exercising particular caution. Anyone applying for a firearms certificate will be assessed against a check list of criteria for suitability.

☐ More training for officers conducting inquiries. Extension of the powers of search where there is reasonable ground that there is a risk to the safety of the public; new power to seize and detain any firearm certificate found.

☐ Power of search to be extended to civilian licensing officials who will get power to inspect dealers, registers and approved gun clubs.

☐ Moves to enable police forces to hold and exchange information on computer about individuals holding certificates, and those whose applications have been refused or had certificates revoked.

☐ New power to allow the police to revoke a certificate where there is no good reason for having a firearm.

☐ Each registered club must maintain a register of attendance of its members who are holders of firearms certificates, together with details of arms they have used.

☐ Each holder of a certificate must be a member of at least one approved club and the certificate must specify the club. Clubs to inform police when a certificate holder ceases to be a member.

☐ Club must inform police when a certificate holder has not attended for a year.

☐ Each club to appoint a member to act as liaison officer with the police.

☐ Conditions for granting or renewing certificate to be dependent on a chief officer of police being satisfied that application is fit to be entrusted with firearms.

☐ Guidance to police to contain advice as to the scope of the term "fitness" relating to a person holding a firearm.

☐ Each club to inform police of application for membership and the outcome.

☐ Each applicant for membership to state whether he or she has submitted a prior application for certificate which has been refused or has had a certificate revoked. Current system of applications being countersigned abolished and replaced with one requiring two references.

☐ Restriction on the availability of self-loading pistols and revolvers of any calibre by their disablement.

☐ Safety strategy for the protection of schoolchildren against attack to be drawn up by education authorities.

☐ New system for accreditation to a national body of all clubs and groups that are attended by children aged under 16. Main purpose would be to allow checks on the suitability of the clubs' leaders and workers.

The Government announced four further measures:

☐ Handgun shooters must obtain a certificate in order to fire a handgun in a gun club.

☐ It will be a criminal offence to fail to notify police whenever a firearm or shotgun is sold, transferred, de-activated or destroyed.

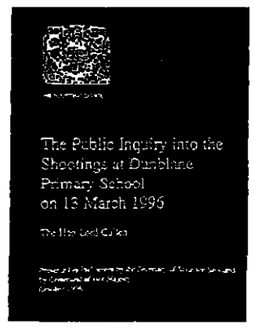
☐ There will be a ban on the sale of guns through the post.

☐ It will be illegal to possess expanding ammunition except for purpose of shooting deer.

The Government also said that all gun clubs must be licensed by the Secretary of State. New standards of security for licenses will include reinforced walls, strong perimeter fences, burglar alarms linked directly to the police, metal detectors at entrances to prevent guns being removed, and regular inspections by police.

THE CULLEN PROPOSALS

Reports by Richard Ford, Dominic Kennedy and David Charter



The Cullen report runs to 174 pages

Magnus Linklater, page 22
Leading article, page 23



Thomas Hamilton, left, and Lord Cullen, who said the gunman could have killed every child in the gym

Volunteers for child work will be checked for criminal records

YOUTH CLUBS

EVERY youth club and youth organisation will be able to vet the criminal records of adults who volunteer to work with children, the Government said yesterday.

In a far-reaching measure to protect the young from suspect youth leaders, ministers have gone further than Lord Cullen's recommendations. They have accepted his idea that a new voluntary accreditation body, showing that proper safeguards to root out unsuitable applicants have been taken, should be created. All youth groups will be able to join the body. Talks will begin immediately with organisations throughout the country to create the agency.

Lord Cullen notes that adults have many opportunities to make contact with children and young people, from Scouts and Guides to personal tuition, sports clubs and arts, music and drama coaching. Criminal record checks can be made on adults who are teachers, work in health or social work, and provide day care for children under eight. Although large well organised voluntary organisations appear to have codes for protecting children from abuse, more informal clubs have less vetting.

The Department of Health in England provides information about convictions of people in childcare work to social work authorities and voluntary organisations. A similar service is available in Northern Ireland. The Department of Education lists the names of people who have left childcare work in circumstances suggesting that children were at risk. No such service exists in Scotland.

The Government announced that access to criminal record checks will be extended to all voluntary youth organisations, Lord Cullen described the criminal records as, in effect, a "paedophile register". "At present there is nothing to prevent an individual declaring himself or herself a 'youth leader', renting premises and starting a youth club or some other similar kind of activity for children over eight," his report says.

The Scottish Office estimates that up to 100,000 adults are associated with 11,000 recognised voluntary youth organisations. A similar number may have access to children, befrienders, home visitors and playgroup workers.

Voluntary organisations have no direct access to the Scottish Criminal Records Office but even if they had, the check would have revealed nothing about Thomas Hamilton. Yet the Scout Association's experience was sufficient to "blacklist" him. Lord Cullen said it was desirable to find a means of assembling information that would alert a legitimate inquirer about a person's behaviour to his potential unsuitability.

He calls for an accrediting body that would be responsible for guidelines on recruitment, training and monitoring of workers with substantial unsupervised access to children, with a view to minimising the risk of abuse. Clubs and groups with suitable codes of practice on checking their workers could be accredited.

Other clubs and groups could provide information about the suitability of individuals. "Great care, would, of course, require to be taken in order to ensure that the information which was recorded was accurate," the report says. "Whether and to what extent the information would be released to a 'member' club or group official who enquired about a particular applicant or worker would depend upon what he needed to know."

Schools must not be turned into little fortresses

SECURITY

SCHOOLS must ensure that teachers have regular training in coping with aggressive intruders and should consider fitting panic buttons in outlying classrooms, Lord Cullen advised.

A checklist of measures to improve classroom security was set out in the report, but he was adamant that schools should not become fortresses.

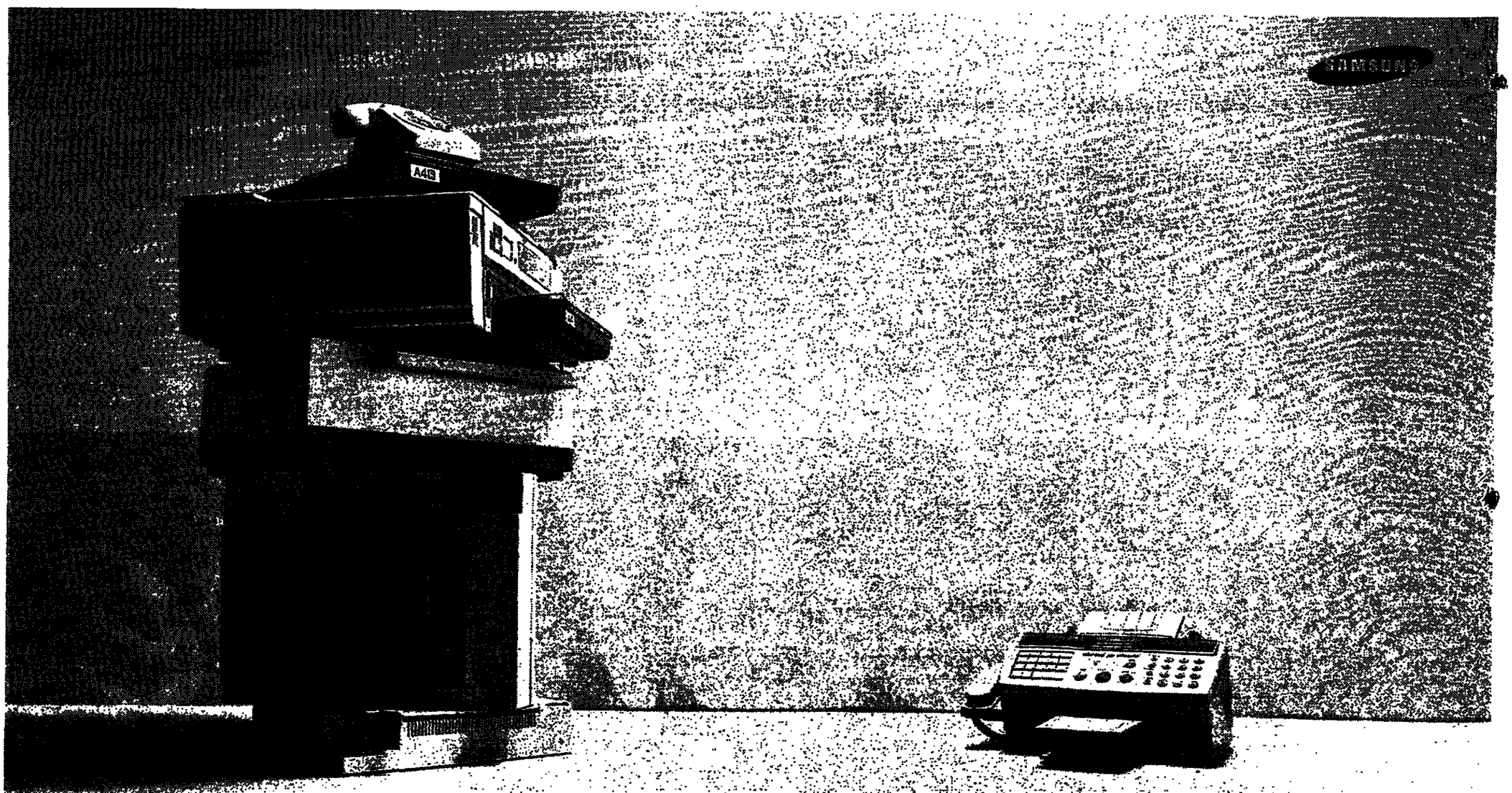
Every school had different safety needs, but each required a thorough risk assessment in the light of the Dunblane massacre. "If a blanket approach to the installation of measures is adopted, this may involve unnecessary or inappropriate expenditure." He added: "Whatever measures are taken, it is unrealistic to expect that the risk of a violent intruder gaining access to a school can be eliminated."

Lord Cullen's views echo those of the Government's working party on school safety, set up after the fatal stabbing of Philip Lawrence, the London head teacher, last December. Teachers' leaders criticised his report for not demanding extra government money. Ministers have promised to announce "substantial new funding" next month which schools can bid for in April to improve security.

Lord Cullen said schools should consider panic alarms or telephones in their classrooms, particularly those remote from the main buildings. Closed-circuit television cameras would help only if they were constantly monitored.

Head teachers should ask whether public access to grounds and the number of doors should be restricted, and whether they needed an entryphone system or locks operated by code. Parents and others visiting school might have to give advance notice.

Ronnie Smith, general secretary of the Educational Institute of Scotland, of which the murdered Dunblane teacher Gwen Mayor was a member, said that Lord Cullen had achieved a balance between security and a welcoming environment.



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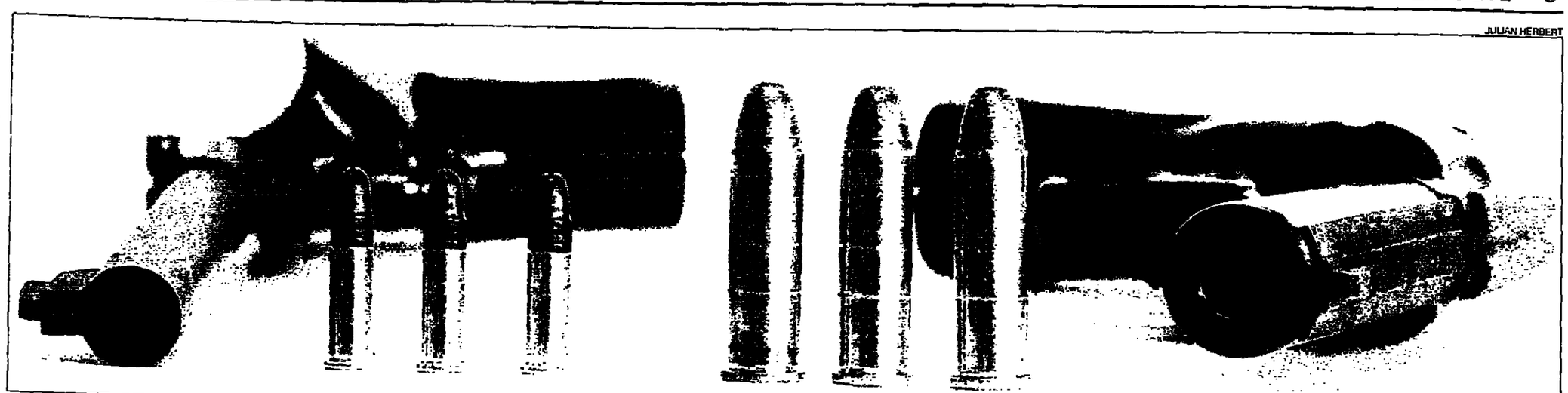
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نقلاً عن الأصل



JULIAN HERBERT

The permissible and the banned: a .22 Webley single shot target pistol would be allowed within the secure confines of a gun club; the .38 Smith & Wesson would be banned for anyone but professionals

Club enthusiasts say rules will stop British Olympic teams

REACTION

Reports by Richard Ford, Stewart Tendler, Michael Evans, Alice Thomson and James Landale

BRITAIN'S gun-club enthusiasts last night angrily denied that the Government's proposals would eliminate the "gun culture" responsible for the Dunblane tragedy.

The British Shooting Sports Council, an umbrella group for the sport, described the ministerial proposals as a "disappointment" and insisted that they would play no part in curbing violent crime.

Pat Johnson, the secretary of the group, said that many of the country's 2,500 clubs may have to close either because they are pistol-only clubs or they will find the new regulations too expensive. He issued a warning that many clubs, enthusiasts, and manufacturers may demand financial compensation.

"The main effect of the Government's proposal will be to make Britain the only country in the world unable to compete in a sport where we have for generations achieved success," Mr Johnson said.

"Our Olympic pistol shooter in Atlanta required a semi-automatic pistol to compete in her event. It will even exclude us from our own Commonwealth Games. The decision may put at risk Manchester's bid to host the Games.

"Lord Cullen highlighted failures of the system of licensing and the council supports all the forms that will strengthen the controls which prevent the wrong person from being licensed to hold a gun."

However, Mr Johnson said: "Parliament has an honorable tradition of protecting the rights of legitimate minorities against passing populist prejudices. Shooters have the same entitlement to their protection as any other sportsmen or any other minority. We expect to be given it."

Mr Johnson said it was a shame the government had been unable to hold the line drawn in the sand by Lord Cullen but had decided to go further. He suggested that the two main political parties had been vying with each other for several weeks to curry political favour. It was unlikely in that atmosphere that the gun lobby would receive a fair hearing.

Carol Page, an Olympic competitor who used semi-automatic weapons in Atlanta, said shooting was the second largest participation sport after football. She said that under the Government's proposals it would be enormously difficult for Olympic hopefuls to achieve the required standard.

She suggested that the gun lobby had been punished by the sins of Thomas Hamilton and insisted that it was not gun-club enthusiasts who were to blame for the tragedy.

The Bisley firing ranges in Surrey, where about 30 gun clubs are based, now face an uncertain future. Geoff Doe, 52, a member of the Worplesdon Rifle and Pistol Club in Surrey, and development officer for the National Small Bore Rifle Association, which represents the interests of thousands of rifle and handgun enthusiasts, said: "It is pure, raw emotion. Taking pistols away from their legitimate owners will not stop another Hungerford or Dunblane."

At Bisley, Mr Doe said that even if small clubs could afford increased security to store .22 weapons, it would not stop determined criminals. He knew of one case where a crane was used to smash a wall so that the gun safe could be stolen. Mr Woodall said his club, Wandsworth, which charges about £50 a year, tried simply to cover its costs. "We will have to win the National Lottery," he said.

Brian Woodall, 44, of Ludlow, Shropshire, was another practising at Bisley yesterday. He too opposes any ban. "My own view is that it will not achieve anything," said Mr Woodall, a member of the Borough of Wandsworth Rifle Club and a .22 pistol enthusiast.

"So many times the view taken is simplistic. When they talk of guns, it's all one thing to them."

The Walther Free pistol he demonstrated yesterday takes about ten seconds for a skilled gunman to reload and fires a single shot at a time. Semi-automatic handguns fire several bullets in a matter of seconds. Shooters at Bisley, which caters for handguns with barrels measuring up to .45 of an inch, likened the difference between high and low-calibre weapons to the difference between the 100 metres and the marathon in athletics. Each required a different skill and even to ban weapons greater in calibre than .22 would be to unfairly deprive them of their sport.

One of Britain's biggest gun clubs Dunmore, in Abingdon, Oxfordshire, said it may close as a result of the new measures. Eight out of ten of its 500 members shoot guns of above .22 calibre and to bring security up to the required standard for the few remaining members would cost tens of thousands of pounds.

Francis Lovel, a director, said: "It is catastrophic. This has all been done for political expediency and will not solve anything." The club employs 13 people and has a £1 million annual turnover. Mr Lovel predicted that most small clubs, charging a few pounds membership a year, would fold.

The Government's compensation package for gun owners is expected to cost £24 million with payments averaging £150 per gun. Each owner will be offered a flat-rate payment for each gun or a price based on an evaluation of the market value of the weapon.

Legal .22 can still be lethal at short range

THE ban on most handguns will remove from lawful ownership a long list of lethal weapons but the .22 pistol, which can kill at short range, is to remain a licensed weapon.

"Just because it's a small bullet doesn't mean it's not lethal," Ian Hogg, former editor of *Jane's Infantry Weapons*, said yesterday after the government announcement on the banning of all handguns above .22 calibre.

Mr Hogg said the present standard ammunition used by Nato forces was .223 in, not much larger than the .22 in, although it was for a rifle, not a handgun, and was therefore a much more powerful weapon.

In terms of lethality, the larger the bullet, the greater the damage suffered by a shooting victim. A 9mm round fired at a limb, for example, could have devastating consequences leading to death from loss of blood, whereas a .22 in bullet might cause only minor injury.

However, a .22 bullet fired accurately at a vulnerable part of the body from close range could kill, Mr Hogg said. A number of assassinations have involved the firing of .22 calibre weapons. Robert Kennedy, the brother of President John Kennedy, was shot dead by Sirhan Bishara Sirhan in 1968 with a .22 Iver Johnson revolver. President Reagan and his press secretary were shot and injured with a .22 calibre pistol by John Hinckley in 1981.

Most recently, Yitzhak Rabin, the former Israeli Prime Minister, was assassinated in November last year after being shot at at close range with a .22 calibre pistol.

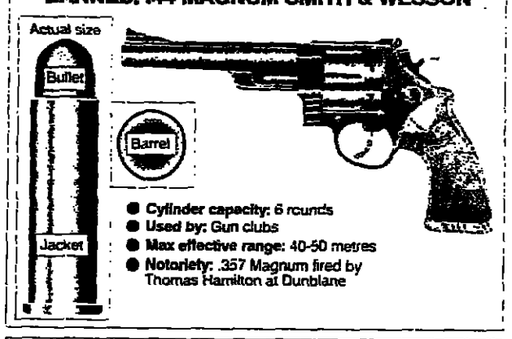
The more powerful pistols and revolvers banned by the Government yesterday include the 9mm Browning, which will now be used legitimately only by the Armed Forces and the police. Capable of rapid-firing 13 rounds, it is acknowledged to be one of the most effective guns. Other 9mm guns include the Luger, Beretta and Walther P38.

Other guns facing the blanket ban include the most popular weapon used by gun clubs, the .38 calibre, which is made by all the recognised manufacturers, such as Smith & Wesson and Colt. John Lennon was assassinated in 1980 by a .38 special.

The ban will also affect all Magnum guns, such as the .357 and the .44 and .41, described by Mr Hogg as the "macho gun used by the baseball cap and beer belly brigade" and made famous by Clint Eastwood in Hollywood's Dirty Harry films. James Bond initially had the 6.35mm Beretta and later changed to a 7.65mm Beretta.

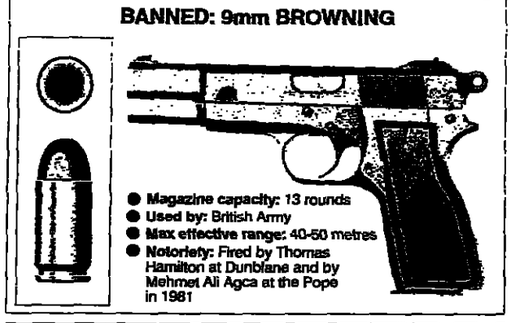
Another .38 calibre gun that will be banned is the Webley service revolver, the main sidearm in the British Armed Forces for many years, although it was largely replaced by the Browning. The IRA is known to have a stock of Webley revolvers.

BANNED: .44 MAGNUM SMITH & WESSON



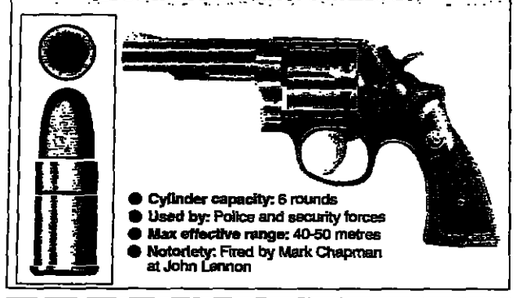
- Cylinder capacity: 6 rounds
- Used by: Gun clubs
- Max effective range: 40-50 metres
- Notoriety: .357 Magnum fired by Thomas Hamilton at Dunblane

BANNED: 9mm BROWNING



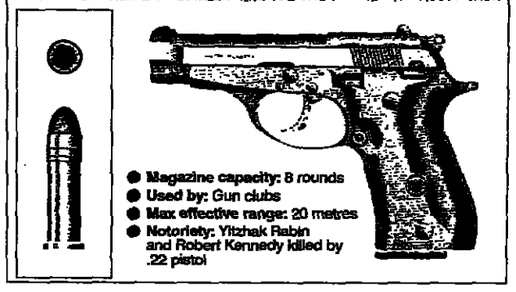
- Magazine capacity: 13 rounds
- Used by: British Army
- Max effective range: 40-50 metres
- Notoriety: Fired by Thomas Hamilton at Dunblane and by Mehmet Ali Agca at the Pope in 1981

BANNED: .38 SMITH & WESSON



- Cylinder capacity: 6 rounds
- Used by: Police and security forces
- Max effective range: 40-50 metres
- Notoriety: Fired by Mark Chapman at John Lennon

RESTRICTED: .22 BERETTA



- Magazine capacity: 8 rounds
- Used by: Gun clubs
- Max effective range: 20 metres
- Notoriety: Yitzhak Rabin and Robert Kennedy killed by .22 pistol

Police criticised for allowing Hamilton to own handguns

LICENSING

LORD CULLEN is highly critical of the way central Scotland Police gave Thomas Hamilton permission to hold more than one handgun of the same calibre.

His report says that the reasons given and accepted for Hamilton being authorised to do so were unsatisfactory. His authority to own firearms and obtain ammunition had been renewed without inquiry despite his misuse of the weapons. The underlying reason for this state was the unsatisfactory way in which official guidance to police was expressed. Although Hamilton's fitness to be trusted with a firearm was challenged after an incident at a summer camp, no action was taken.

Lord Cullen says Douglas McMurdo, then Deputy Chief Constable, should have made further inquiries after concerns were expressed by junior officers about the incident. "On balance there was a case for revocation [of the certificate] which should have been acted upon. The same considerations should have led in any event to the refusal of Hamilton's subsequent applications for renewal of his firearms certificate."

Hamilton was granted a firearm certificate in February 1977; his reason was that he was a target-shooter at a shooting club. At the time of his death he held more than one firearm of the same calibre, both pistols and revolvers but Lord Cullen is critical of a decision in 1986 to allow Hamilton to acquire a second 9mm pistol.

The reasons given were that he was "active in competition-shooting throughout the country". But Lord Cullen says the statement was an exaggeration because of the scale of his purchase of 9mm ammunition in the proceeding years. There was no evidence that he was engaged in competition shooting to any significant extent "let alone throughout the country".

In 1992 he was given permission to acquire a second .357 revolver but the report says there is no satisfactory evidence that Hamilton was engaged in competitive-shooting. "This does not inspire me with confidence that at least in the case of Thomas Hamilton there was good reason for the authority for additional handguns of the same calibre."

The report adds: "Thomas Hamilton's authority to hold and acquire or purchase ammunition was renewed in 1992 and 1995 where, according to the purchases recorded on his certificate, he was not shooting to any significant extent."

Mr McMurdo received information about Hamilton's display of firearms to a family but decided no action should be taken. The information was not put in a firearms file relating to Hamilton although it should have been and it was not entered in criminal intelligence records.

A second warning in November 1991 in which a detective sergeant warned that Hamilton was an unsavoury character and unstable was also not entered in the firearms file though it should have been. The copy was not put in criminal intelligence records.

The report says Mr McMurdo had difficulty in envisaging cases in which a person could be shown to be "unfit" to be entrusted with a firearm where there was no previous criminal conviction or pending case. Lord Cullen says that Mr McMurdo "adopted an unduly narrow approach in which he paid not much more than lip-service to the idea that a person could be 'unfitted' in the absence of a conviction or pending criminal case."



McMurdo: resigned his post yesterday

Labour MPs call for closure of basement range

WESTMINSTER

LABOUR MPs last night put down a motion calling for MPs to set an example and close the Palace of Westminster rifle range. But members of the House of Commons shooting club are adamant it should continue.

The 25-yard range, which lies deep in the bowels of the House of Lords, lies behind a securely locked door with a sign that declares: "Authorised personnel only. Contact control engineers prior to access." There are no directions to the club and it is extremely difficult to find. Members must have a full Westminster security pass and pay a subscription of £15 a year.

Most of the weapons used are .22-calibre single-shot rifles. Recently, however, some .22-calibre and .38-calibre pistols have been introduced. All weapons used are kept on the premises in a securely locked armoury.

It is probably one of the few clubs that will meet the new strict government criteria for shooting ranges. But a growing number of MPs on both sides say it is an embarrassment. Several women MPs are lobbying hard to make the space into a creche.

Tony Banks, MP for Newham North West, who yesterday put forward the motion to close the club, said: "If these MPs carry on using the club, at the least it will be considered insensitive and at the worst arrogant and dangerous. We don't get many opportunities to set an example and this should be one of them."

A policemen in the Lords yesterday said: "The club will be back. MPs use it every day and one evening a week. They use it to let off steam."

Unlike other Westminster sports clubs, the members of the shooting club are not listed anywhere but at least 50 of exist. The chairman is Michael Colvin, MP for Romsey and Waterside. Despite having refrained from shooting yesterday, they say they will fight to keep the range going.

No one would defend the club publicly but one Tory member in the Lords said: "The shooting is highly regulated and the range is checked regularly by Home Office inspectors." He added: "This range has been going since 1916, since the First World War, we can't just get rid of it in this knee-jerk way."

Emotion must not sweep MPs into framing bad law

RIDDELL ON POLITICS

Parliament is likely to take the right decision over banning handguns, but is reaching it in an overhasty way. There is a strong case for banning guns that have the most tenuous sporting justification. The rationalisations of the gun lobby are tortuous and unconvincing. A clear-cut ban is likely to isolate illegal holders of guns more effectively than a partial ban.

The key point was the acceptance by Michael Howard that in Britain owning a gun is a privilege, while by contrast it is seen in America as a constitutional right. The force of public opinion has led the Government to bring forward much stronger controls than even Lord Cullen proposes, while Labour supports a complete ban.

Mr Howard and Jack Straw put forward reasoned cases for their viewpoints. Mr Straw emphasised the problems of allowing .22 handguns in gun clubs even under much tighter security standards. Mr Howard argued that a ban might produce the same difficulties as in other prohibitions, by driving the use of handguns underground without strict security. Mr Howard rejected the call by David Mellor that the Bill should include alternative clauses, as occurred with the legislation on shop opening hours on Sundays and over time limits on abortions.

The opposition parties have already said they will allow a free vote, though the Government will whip its MPs. A number of urban Tories, including Mr Mellor, Robert Hughes and Hugh Dykes, have said they support a total ban. Some rural Tories and allies of the gun lobby, such as Henry Bellingham, John Carlisle and Edward Leigh, were critical of the Government for already having gone beyond Lord Cullen's recommendations.

My hunch, however, is that a Labour and Liberal Democrat proposal for a total ban would be approved by the Commons with the backing of a number of Tories and with others abstaining. The momentum is behind the Snowdrop campaign and the call for a ban. Mr Forsyth was adamant yesterday that the Government had not changed its position, since it had not formed one until Tuesday when he and Mr Howard presented a joint paper to their colleagues. But during the process of policy formation Mr Forsyth edged his colleagues towards a firmer line, which prevailed. Labour has also strengthened its position in the past fortnight.

Mr Howard is keen for the necessary legislation to be in place by Christmas. While an urgent response is owed to the victims of Dunblane, I wonder if such speed is justified. Hasty legislation is often regretted and much amended later.

A tide of emotion leads to strong demands for action, and the Government with Opposition support rushes legislation through Parliament. Enthusiasts for instant action should first read the report of the Hansard Society Commission on *The Legislative Process*, published four years ago. This warned about the perils of ill-considered legislation, notably the Dangerous Dogs Act of 1991 which went from publication to Royal Assent in six weeks, having gone through the Commons in a single day. Only the Lords gave the measure even semi-adequate consideration. But that law is widely seen as flawed.

There has, of course, already been a wider debate about tighter gun controls, not only in the Cullen report but in the enquiry by the Home Affairs Select Committee in the summer. But since the conclusions of both have been rejected, there is a case for at least a pause to consider the practical implications of the alternatives put forward by the Government and the Opposition.

Commons procedures already allow for special standing committees to question witnesses on details of legislation. That would mean a delay of only two or three weeks at most. A ban on handguns is overwhelmingly justified, but, however strong the emotions, Parliament still has a duty to ensure that legislation works in practice.

PETER RIDDELL

Actors and vets will be allowed to keep weapons

EXEMPTIONS

VETERINARY surgeons are among the "few professionals" who will be exempted from the ban on the possession of handguns, Michael Howard, the Home Secretary, told the Commons yesterday.

"There are no specific exemptions from the ban," a Home Office spokesman said last night. "But groups such as vets, which can make out a convincing case, will be able to apply to the Secretary of State for a special licence to keep handguns at home."

Athletics officials who use starting-pistols and actors playing roles that require them to carry guns are among those who would be exempted if they applied, officials said.

A spokeswoman for the British Veterinary Association said, "It would have made vets' jobs horrendously difficult if this had not been allowed." There are about 3,600 veterinary practices in Britain, of which 1,000 deal exclusively with small animals such as cats and dogs and use lethal injections for euthanasia. But the remaining 2,600 use .32 and .38 pistols to kill incurably sick or injured large animals, such as farm livestock and horses.

Richard Jones, president of the British Equine Veterinary Association, said: "Barbiturates can be used to put down horses, but because of the drug residues the carcass cannot then be used by hunt kennels to feed their hounds, which is the normal means of disposal, and has to be expensively cremated."

The shotguns used by game shooters and kept by many farmers are excluded because handguns are defined as pistols or revolvers designed to be held and fired using one hand only.

Robin Peel, of the British Association for Shooting and Conservation, representing 112,000 mainly game and clay pigeon shooters, said: "The vast majority of our members will be unaffected, but there will some farmers and gamekeepers who keep pistols for close-quarter dispatch of wounded animals.

He added: "As a matter of principle, we regard it as extremely illogical that someone who is deemed an appropriate person to own one type of gun should be prohibited from holding another type of weapon."

'As a picture it is disappointing. It is of a standard of a nine-year-old boy'

'Childish' Hitler painting fetches £2,500 at auction

BY DALYA ALBERGE, ARTS CORRESPONDENT



Hitler was embittered by academy rejections

A WATERCOLOUR of Vienna attributed to Hitler was auctioned yesterday for £2,500, almost three times the estimate. International auctioneers refuse to touch works connected to the Nazis but the painting, signed A. Hitler and dated 1911, was sold by a Lincolnshire firm.

The picture, 10in by 14½in, shows figures scurrying across a square. It was identified as a Hitler watercolour because of its poor quality. Robert Horner, an auctioneer and salesroom manager for Dickinson, Davy and Markham, of Brigg, said: "As a painting it is very disappointing. It is of a standard of my nine-year-old son."

It was bought by Michelle Donaldson, an accounts and finance lecturer at North Lindsey College of Technology, Scunthorpe, on behalf of her father, a foundry owner, who is in America.

Jonathan Friend, of Hull Reform Synagogue, said: "It is distasteful that such paintings by Adolf Hitler are still available. No good can come from them and it is better that they are not around."

As far as the art market is concerned, the only thing in the picture's favour is the artist's name. Beyond that it has little going for it. The painting is clumsy and two-dimensional and the composition, brushwork and imagery are as awkward and lacking in sensitivity as they are crude and lifeless. It illustrates perfectly why Hitler was turned down by Austria's Academy of Fine Arts.

Another auctioneer at the sale, Graham Paddison, said that it was the lack of quality that enabled them to identify Hitler's hand. He said that confirmation had come from a specialist in Third Reich and Nazi items, Michael Mackintosh. The type of paper was contemporary with the date.

The watercolour was sold with Third Reich memorabilia, including one of the funeral wreaths given by Hitler to the widows of high party officials. Mr Paddison said that the objects were collected from an apartment in Hamburg in 1945 by the seller.

The picture was painted after Hitler's repeated rejection from the Vienna academy, the records of which show that his drawings were dismissed as "inadequate". An embittered Hitler, it is said, told a companion that the academy should be blown up. Historians have speculated on the course that history might have taken if he had been accepted.

Philip Saunders, a leading specialist in art and the war years, said: "These works are more interesting because of who painted them. I'm sure of that 100 per cent." He added that they had a "curio interest rather than an artistic interest" and that they were purchased by collectors of memorabilia rather than collectors of art. German musuems sought them for their historical interest.

Commenting on the difficulties of identifying Hitler's style, he said: "You have to rely on provenance, although you also have to prove the provenance."

Such works appear on the market every so often. In 1991, two of Hitler's floral images were offered at a Yorkshire auction house and last year a watercolour was sold to an American for £9,500.

Mr Paddison said that his firm had since been offered another half a dozen Hitler watercolours: "We often sell Nazi and Third Reich items, mainly bayonets, daggers, flags and uniforms. Nobody condones what went on, but it is a collecting field in its own right. We're just the middlemen who seem to get into trouble."

Miss Donaldson said: "My dad told me he wanted it and, because he's in America, I came along for him. It's the first time I've ever been to an auction, or bid for a lot. But I was determined to get it.

"I was so nervous as the price went up and didn't know how much I was going to have to pay for it. He will be happy. I think he would have been upset if it had gone to someone else."

Hitler's interest in art was to grow into an obsession for collecting it. His personal curator corresponded with his personal assistant almost daily and in minute detail about works Hitler that wished to acquire.

Thousands of works were collected for Hitler's proposed museum in Linz, Austria, which he had planned to be the largest in the world.

Nazi treasures, page 18



The watercolour of a Vienna square, dated 1911. Its lack of quality helped the auctioneers to identify the artist

Gladiators star fined for attack on former husband

BY A STAFF REPORTER

THE former *Gladiators* star Phoenix was sentenced to 150 hours of community service yesterday for beating up her ex-husband over custody of their son.

Sandy Young, a kickboxer who once held the title Bodybuilding Miss UK, was told to pay compensation of £125 at the rate of £10 a week. Judge Mott, sitting at Worcester Crown Court, also sentenced Young's former boyfriend, Mark Eustace, 28, to 80 hours' community service and told him to pay £75 compensation for his part in the attack.

At a previous hearing, Wolverhampton Crown Court was told that Young launched an attack of "wanton violence and revenge" on Stephen Young, her ex-husband, which left him with a broken ankle. She and Eustace had previously pleaded guilty to charges of assault.

Tom Storey, for the prosecution, said: "Mrs Young went to her ex-husband's house in a high temper, being aggresive and hostile." A fight had broken out between the two in which "both were injured to some extent".

"Once the violence stopped, Sandra Young called to Mr Eustace, who had been remaining out of sight. He delivered a blow as a result of which Mr Young fell to the ground. Once on the ground both kicked out at Mr Young."

It was only when Mr Young's girlfriend, Elsa Jones, came into the room that Eustace, a metal worker, "came to his senses" and "tried to stop his co-accused from continuing her attack on Mr Young and Miss Jones".

Young, 31, who lives with her 11-year-old son, was arrested on November 24 last year, three weeks after the attack. She was one of the first Gladiators in the LWT show and gave up her job at a chemist in Dudley, West Midlands, after being hounded by autograph hunters.

She was dropped from the programme in late 1992 for not coming up to scratch. She took up bodybuilding after the birth of her son, Lee. A *Gladiators* spokesman said yesterday: "She simply didn't have the strength needed to compete in the show."

The programme is hosted by John Fashanu and Ulrika Jonsson and filmed at Birmingham's National Indoor Arena and has become cult viewing for millions.

After the case Young said: "The whole truth has not come out and I am very upset about it. What was said in court and in the papers was complete fabrication."

Heirlooms of Parker Bowles sell for £30,000

BY ALAN HAMILTON

CAMILLA Parker Bowles found herself £30,000 better off last night after selling a collection of 19th-century family heirlooms connected with a royal mistress of an earlier age.

The vases, urns, bowls and candlesticks made from the fluorspar mineral commonly known as Derbyshire blue John had been inherited by Mrs Parker Bowles from her maternal grandmother, Sonia Cubitt, eldest daughter of Alice Keppel, mistress of Edward VII.

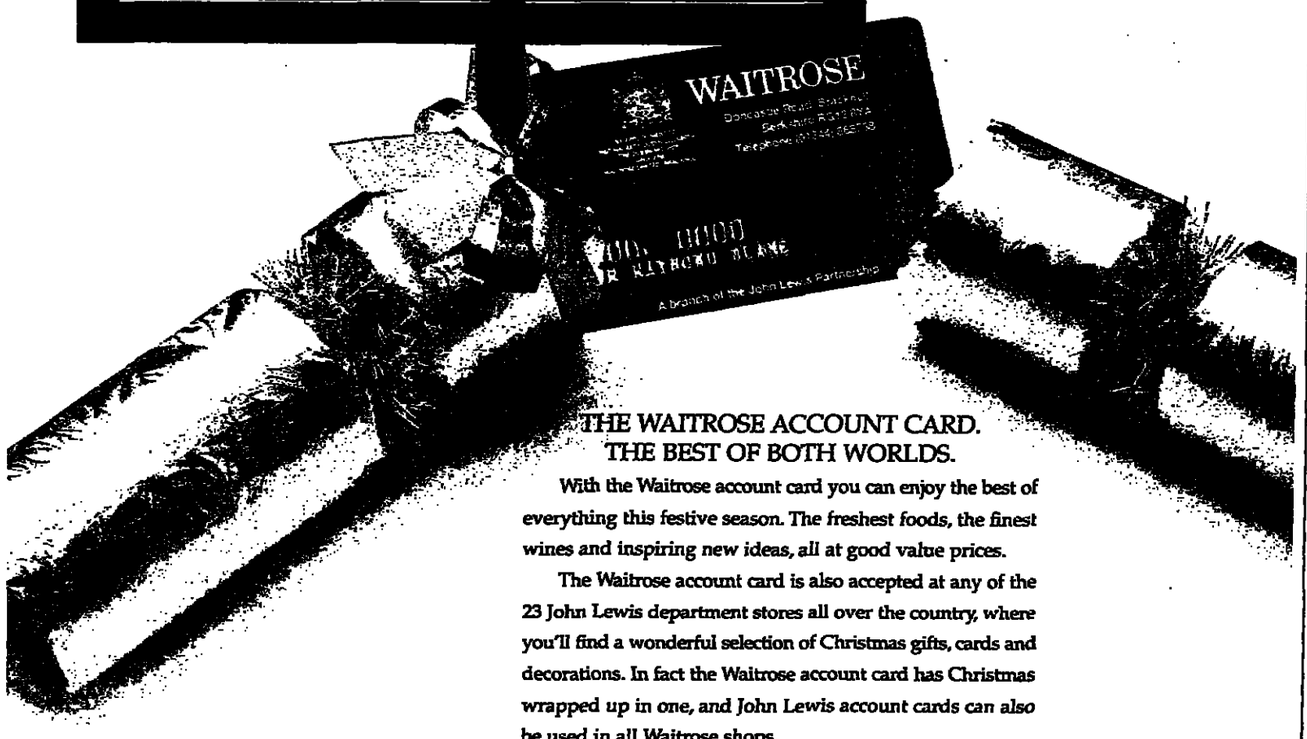
Nine of the 12 lots offered at Christie's South Kensington were bought over the telephone by Avocato Memmo, an American specialist collector of blue John ware. Two lots went to other telephone bidders, while the top individual price of £8,050, for an 11in-high ornamental urn, went to another anonymous buyer.



Parker Bowles: clearly identified as seller

Mrs Parker Bowles was not present to watch brisk telephone bidding push the collection to twice the overall estimate. One George III-style bowl, valued at not more than £400, went for £1,500. She apparently had no objection to being identified in the sale catalogue, which further stated clearly from whom the collection had been inherited.

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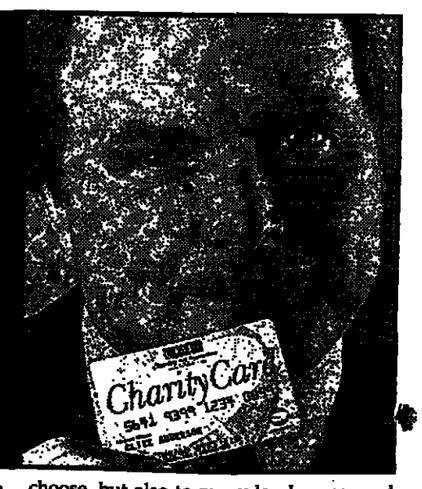
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First night of cliffhanger swept along by blue-rinse tidal wave



Cliff Richard has asked that his musical Heathcliff *be given a fair chance by the critics, but his fans are already certain they are going to love it,* ***Richard Morrison*** *writes*

Sir Cliff Richard's *Heathcliff*, which opened in Birmingham's National Indoor Arena last night, is as review-proof as any new musical will ever be. Advance sales top £8.5 million. More than a hundred nights of its 126-night British tour are already sold out. And touts proffered first-night tickets at up to ten times their face value to the hundreds of fans — known as "cliffhangers" in the trade — who hit Birmingham like a blue-rinse tidal wave yesterday.

For their part, the fans outside the hall yesterday raved about the show even before the curtain rose. "The album already makes me cry: it's the best thing Cliff has ever done," said Susan Wilton, who had travelled from Frome, Somerset, with her daughters. "The newspapers have always hated Cliff because he's nice and also successful," Gillian Parkinson, from Coventry, added. "He's still got the best voice and the best looks in pop."

Jill Armstrong, 33, and Barbara Byrne, 35, did not see the show but sat outside hoping for a glimpse of Sir Cliff. They were in no doubt about his ability to deliver a hit musical. "He's wanted to do this for so long and it's his dream. I'm sure he'll do well."

Miss Armstrong said. But as Sir Cliff launched the spectacular £3.5 million adaptation of Emily Brontë's classic novel *Wuthering Heights*, he made a plea for a little critical understanding.

"I hope people just give me a fair crack of the whip," the singer said. "All I can do is do my best." He also dismissed taunts that he is too old to play the wild man of the Yorkshire moors who, in the novel, dies at 38. "For years people have been telling me how young I look. I am the perfect person to play a 38-year-old."

His fears of a critical mauling may be justified. The notion of this squeaky-clean British pop icon playing one of the most bitter and twisted figures in 19th-century literature has caused a certain merriment in cynical circles.

And at many points in its six-year genesis his Brontë project appeared to be withering rather than wuthering. A search for the right actress to play Cathy involved an audition process almost as protracted as that for Scarlett O'Hara. Olivia Newton John sang the part on the *Heathcliff* album, issued last year, but at 47 was considered too mature to partner the 56-year-old Sir Cliff. Helen Hobson took the role on stage last night.

However, Sir Cliff has never lost faith in the project, which was inspired, he says, by a book that he has loved since he was a schoolboy. He has declared that *Heathcliff* will be "the pinnacle of my career", and has sunk an estimated £2 million of his own money in the project.

He has hinted that the five-month tour of *Heathcliff*, which takes in Edinburgh and Manchester before arriving at Labatt's Apollo in London next February, will be his swansong. If so, it will crown one of the most remarkable careers in 20th-century entertainment. He has spanned five decades, achieved 13 gold discs and sung on more than 100 hit records.

Last year he rivalled Dame Vera Lynn as the prime attraction of the VE-Day celebrations. He was knighted in June, shortly before he led a rain-soaked Wimbledon Centre Court crowd in a singalong medley of his hits. Anyone less like the misanthropic Heathcliffe would be hard to imagine — but that is the transforming power of drama.

Sir Tim Rice was recruited to distil Brontë's turbulent tale of dark, moorside vengeance into a series of pithy pop-song lyrics. John Farrar, who supplied some of the hits for the film *Grease*, wrote the tunes. And Frank Dunlop, former director of the Edinburgh Festival, was hired to stage the epic.

Stage it in epic style he has done. His evocation of the Yorkshire moors involves 1,000 litres of smoke fluid and a hundredweight of snow in every performance, plus a technical staff of 200. Brad Jeffries, sometime choreographer for Madonna, added dance routines, including some bizarre sequences for tribal dancers. Emily Brontë unaccountably left them out of her novel.

DONALD COOPER



Novel production: Cliff Richard as Heathcliff and Helen Hobson as Cathy

Death car pair 'lied to dodge breath test'

BY A STAFF REPORTER

A COUPLE swapped seats in an effort to beat a breath test as a man hit by their car lay dying, a court was told yesterday.

Clive Berry said that his wife was behind the wheel because he feared he was over the legal alcohol limit, Simon Temple, for the prosecution, told Manchester Crown Court. In fact Angela Berry, 40, was in the passenger seat.

They concocted the story after their car knocked down Keith Handley, 31, in Failsworth, Greater Manchester, in December. Mr Handley, who was crossing the road to meet his family in a pub, died the next day. Police are satisfied that the driver was not to blame.

Mr Berry, a sales manager, had drunk three or four cans of beer, Mr Temple said. He told police the following evening that he had been driving.

Mrs Berry, 40, told the jury: "The man's family were there and I was frightened they might get nasty. I said I was driving because I thought they might be more sympathetic to a woman."

Mr and Mrs Berry, of Hepworth, west Yorkshire, deny perverting the course of justice. The trial continues.

Duke loses inheritance on routine trip to vet

BY RUSSELL JENKINS

DUKE, a Yorkshire terrier from a line of 24 champions, was mistakenly castrated on a routine visit to the vet to have its milk teeth removed.

The operation, carried out by a Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals clinic in Salford, Greater Manchester, put an end to the ten-month-old puppy's chances of prolonging the line registered at the Kennel Club as Lord of Landgate. Its owner, Elaine Digby, 42, of Ashton-under-Lyne, was hoping to put the pedigree dog out to stud.

Mrs Digby said that she took Duke in for an examination five days before the operation and a vet asked her if she wanted it castrated at the same time. She said that she did not. After the operation, the clinic tried to charge her £25.

The dog is said by the family to be worth more than £200 and could have earned £100 a time in stud fees. Mrs Digby's husband, Derek, 48, said that the family had decided to give the dog away to a neighbour.

The RSPCA apologised for the error and promised to try to ensure that similar mistakes did not happen again.

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£300m scheme to replace Bart's hospital by 2001

BY JEREMY LAURANCE, HEALTH CORRESPONDENT

BRITAIN'S oldest hospital, St Bartholomew's, will close by 2001, the chairman of the NHS trust which manages it said yesterday.

The Royal Hospitals NHS Trust, which includes Bart's, announced a £300 million scheme to build a new hospital in Whitechapel, east London, which will replace Bart's and three other hospitals. St Bartholomew's has stood on the same site in Smithfield for almost 870 years. It was founded in 1125 to care for the sick and poor of the City of London and is the only one of the original medieval hospitals occupying its original site.

There will be a new 1,100-bed hospital and a medical and dental school on the site of the Royal London Hospital, Whitechapel. It will mean the loss of 1,000 jobs and 240 beds.

Sir Derek Boorman, the trust chairman, said: "In four years' time [from the start of building], have no doubt there will be no acute hospital on the Smithfield site. There will be many who will not like it but the writing has been on the wall for 98 years." The closure of Bart's was recommended in an independent report in 1992 and confirmed in 1994 by Virginia Bottomley, then Health Secretary.

Sir Derek said agreement had been reached with the Health Management Group, a joint venture between the AMEC group and the Building and Property Group, to build the new hospital and lease it back to the National Health Service on a 30-year contract under the Government's private finance initiative. He declined to disclose the cost of the deal to the NHS, which is still being negotiated. Treasury approval also has to be obtained. Sir Derek said the deal would be clinched by the spring, and building would begin later next year.

If the cost proved prohibitive, or Treasury approval were withheld beyond the general election, Bart's could still be saved.

The National Health Service needs £200 million immediately to meet its commitments to patients, the main employer organisation said yesterday. The National Association of Health Authorities and Trusts said waiting lists would lengthen and curbs would be imposed on non-urgent treatment this winter if more money was not made available. The association said an extra 4.5 per cent of patients were treated between April and June and emergency admissions had risen by 13 per cent in the past four years.

A study of the Royal London Hospital and Bart's by the Centre for Health Economics at York University concluded that there would be only a small difference in running costs if both hospitals were retained, although the report's findings were heavily criticised by the trust.

Sir Derek said the Royal London buildings were "clapped out" and that running a trust on five sites was inefficient; defenders of Bart's were influenced more by their hearts than their heads.

The other hospitals to close are the Queen Elizabeth Hospital for Children, the London Chest Hospital and the Mile End branch of the Royal London. The new building will be built and run by the Health Management Group with clinical services managed by the trust.

Gerry Green, chief executive of the trust, said it was obvious that switching from five sites to one would need fewer staff. A thousand employees were expected to go over five years, including doctors and nurses. "We will be driven by the contracts we get and they are moving away from us as more patients are treated in hospitals in the suburbs. We are well-placed because we have a large local population."



AP

Jagger and Hall are said to be planning a divorce after he was reported spending the night with a model. A friend says it may just be "a salvo across the bows"

Jagger may bet millions that Hall is bluffing

BY EMMA WILKINS AND FRANCES GIBB

MICK JAGGER was working in Los Angeles on a film called *Enigma* yesterday as he tried to unravel a far greater mystery: does Jerry Hall really want a divorce?

Although Hall has consulted Anthony Julius, divorce lawyer for Diana, Princess of Wales, Jagger doubts that she will follow through her threat to leave him after 20 years together. The 53-year-old Rolling Stone, whose personal fortune exceeds £110 million, asked his London agent to fax copies of British newspaper reports that Hall wants to end their six-year marriage.

Hall, who is the mother of three of his five children, threatened to leave him in 1992 after his much-publicised affair with Carla Bruni, an Italian model. "This is a salvo across Mick's bows," a friend of Jagger's said. "Jerry has tried threatening to walk out before, but they have always got back together."

Jagger, whose production company is adapting the film from Robert Harris's counter-espionage thriller, has been enjoying himself in Hollywood in the company of Uma Thurman, an actress, and Jana Rajlich, a Czech model. Reports that Rajlich spent the night with him in a Beverly Hills hotel have infuriated Hall, 40, who lives in Richmond, southwest London, with the couple's children, Elizabeth, 13, James, 11, and Georgia, 4.

Jagger is believed to have asked Hall to sign a pre-nuptial agreement before their Hindu wedding in Bali, but British matrimonial lawyers agree that she would be well advised to seek a divorce in the United States.

Mark Stephens, of Stephens Innocent, Paula Yates's solicitor, said that Hall should go to Los Angeles if she wanted to "take him for every penny". "It would be surprising if somebody in her position wanted to divorce in this country," he said. "Normally we would see this happen in California, where he would have to give up 50 per cent of everything he owns. If it's in this country, she will get what is sufficient for her needs and the needs of the children."

The highest award made to a British woman was to Soraya Khashoggi, a former telephonist, who received £500 million plus property from her billionaire ex-husband, Adnan, in a settlement in America in 1982.

When Jagger was sued for divorce in 1979 by his first wife, Bianca, he successfully contested her attempt to have the hearing held in the United States on the grounds that he was a British citizen and that the family lived in London.

Celebrity divorces, page 21

Nolan supports Commons inquiry into sleaze claims

BY VALERIE ELLIOTT, WHITEHALL EDITOR

LORD Nolan last night gave his full backing to the House of Commons inquiry into the cash-for-questions affair.

He was confident that Sir Gordon Downey, the Parliamentary Commissioner for Standards, had all the powers necessary to conduct a full investigation. But he admitted that this was a powerful first test for the machinery his committee had proposed after its investigation into standards in public life. He would be watching developments carefully.

Lord Nolan said: "This inquiry will be different from any previously in the House because of the introduction of the independent commissioner who will carry out the initial investigation into the facts. He will do so as is now clear with all the powers which he needs."

But Lord Nolan was concerned that the public seemed to have forgotten that the cash-for-questions affair related to a period before the rules on MPs' interests had been tightened. The allegations against Neil Hamilton, the former Trade Minister, and David Willetts, the Paymaster General, took place before or during October 1994, when the Nolan committee was set up.

"There seems to be an impression among the public that MPs may be still at it ... But there has been an enormous change in the Commons since then, in the way Parliament has adopted a new framework for registering MPs' interests, and in the way that complaints are investigated."

By setting up Sir Gordon's inquiry, Lord Nolan said he was pleased that Parliament was showing the public it could put its house in order. His committee had considered it extremely important that the Commons should continue to regulate its own affairs.

"I have no doubt at all that Sir Gordon and the Select Committee on Standards and Privileges and every member of the House is acutely aware that they are expected to ensure this inquiry is conducted thoroughly, impartially, openly and with the greatest vigour."

He praised the speed and unanimity of the Select Committee and commended the seniority and integrity of MPs on it. "It is not a committee that is likely to let anyone off the hook if they think wrong has been done," he said.

Lord Nolan has already said he intends to review the working of the office of the Parliamentary Commissioner on Standards next summer. If MPs and the public are unhappy with the procedures of the present inquiry this can be addressed at that stage.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Channel 5 to launch in March

The new launch date for Channel 5 will be Good Friday, March 28, next year, three months later than expected. Retuning to avoid interference with video recorders has proved a bigger task than anticipated. The award of an extra frequency added 1.8 million homes to its reach, taking its penetration to 80 per cent of Britain.

Tourist murder

A 13-year-old boy is to stand trial for the murder of a British tourist in Sydney. The boy allegedly stabbed Gawen Whalley, 22, from Dorset, with a butterfly knife as he was walking home from work in April.

Village greening

A scheme to create 250 village greens and urban "breathing spaces", using £10 million from the National Lottery Millennium Fund, was launched by the Countryside Commission. Communities are being asked to apply.

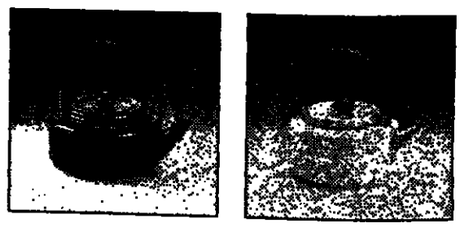
Drug arrests

Police arrested 13 people at addresses in London, Kent and Surrey in connection with the import and sale of drugs from Holland. The raids were the culmination of a 16-month operation.

Squirrel alert

Road signs alerting motorists to red squirrels are to be erected on the Isle of Wight, one of their last havens. The island has an estimated 1,500 red squirrels. Up to 100 are killed on the roads each year.

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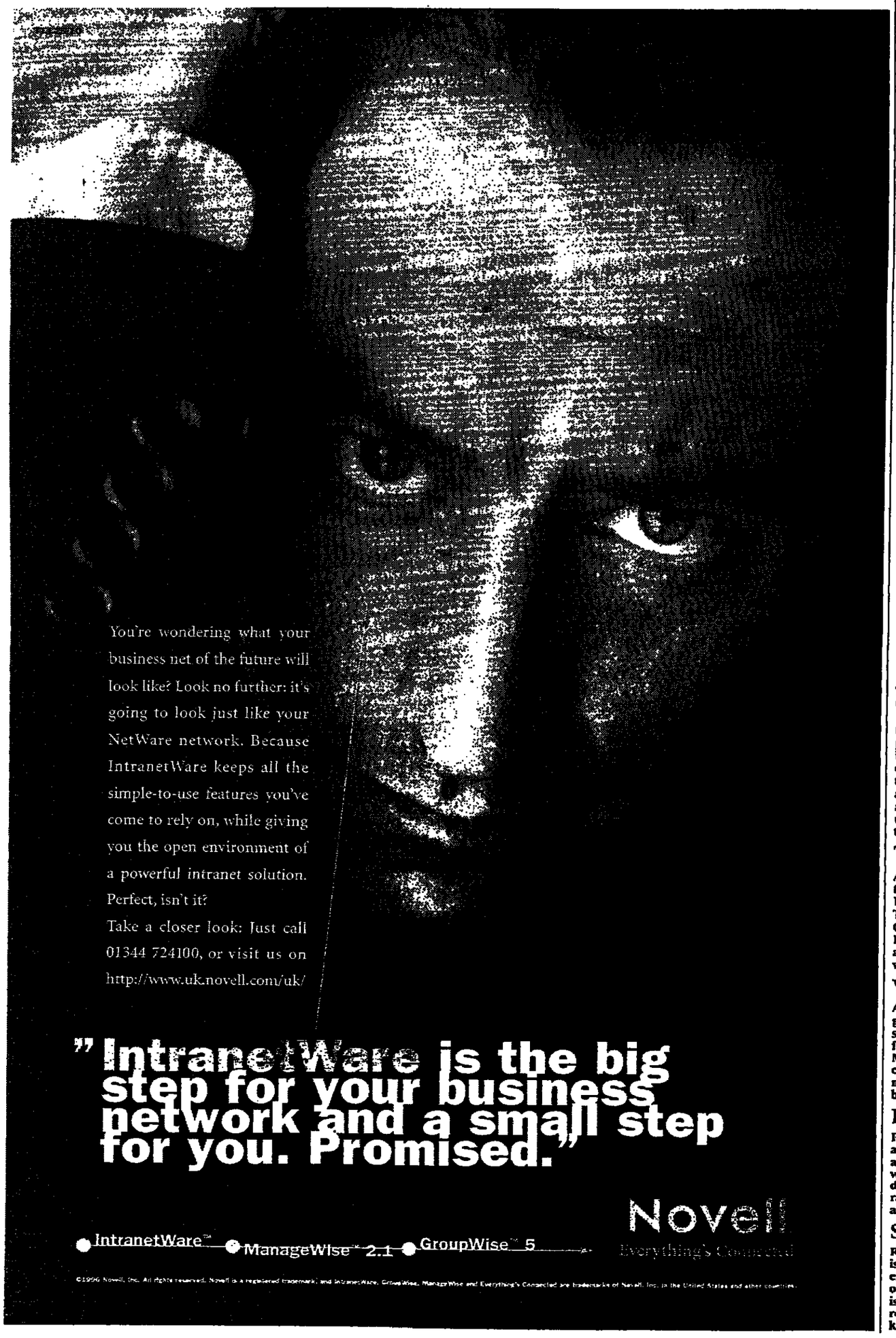
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هكذا من الأصل

Poem on bullying found after Sikh schoolboy's death

BY DAVID CHARTER, EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

POLICE are investigating the death of a Sikh schoolboy who hanged himself days after describing the misery of being bullied in a poem praised by his teacher.

Vijay Singh Shahiry, 13, also left a scribbled diary at home which read: "I shall remember this for eternity and will never forget. Monday: My money was taken. Tuesday: Names called. Wednesday: My uniform torn. Thursday: My body pouring with blood. Friday: It's ended. Saturday: Freedom." On Sunday, his body was found hanging from the banisters of his home in Stretford.

Vijay, who wore a turban, was the target of racial taunts from rival players and spectators when he played at junior football matches, police said. Phil Wrenn, of Greater Manchester Police, added: "We have interviewed pupils and teachers at Vijay's school and the early indications are that any bullying which did take place happened when he was travelling to and from school.

"It is too early for us to say whether this racial abuse and any bullying which may have taken place led him to take his own life."

Vijay died days after being given a merit award by his English teacher for his "excellent" writing about bullying. Vijay's family realised only after his death that his school work drew on a secret diary.

His mother, Nickey, said: "We were completely shocked. We discovered a diary of bullying in his jotter pad and that is the only clue. His last school work was about bullying. He was a dream son."

Vijay's poem about bullies reads: "I'm frightened and scared. my body has been shaking, my mouth open wide and frozen, the tears drop as they destroy my face. Take my money and flee to where they can go. Bullies I call out, they have no feelings at all.

"Bullies are the people who have no feelings or emotions. They are people who are not so clever at things that others are. They do this because they have no skill for anything else and know they need no skills for this.

"Bullies are bad and selfish people. They are also cowardly people, cruel and evil people. They are more than all this but they're also guilty. They hurt us with words, hurt us with body contact, but not clever." His teacher wrote: "Excellent work, Vijay."

His mother said: "It is clear to me he was being bullied horrifically. The description in his project and in his jotter pad prove it. I wish he had told someone. He was very close to his family, but he didn't tell a soul. There were so many people he could have turned to for help."

The school declined yesterday to discuss Vijay's piece of writing, which was his second on bullying. Barbara Howse, the head teacher, described him as an able boy, a superb sportsman and a brilliant member of the school. "He was liked and respected by pupils and teachers alike."

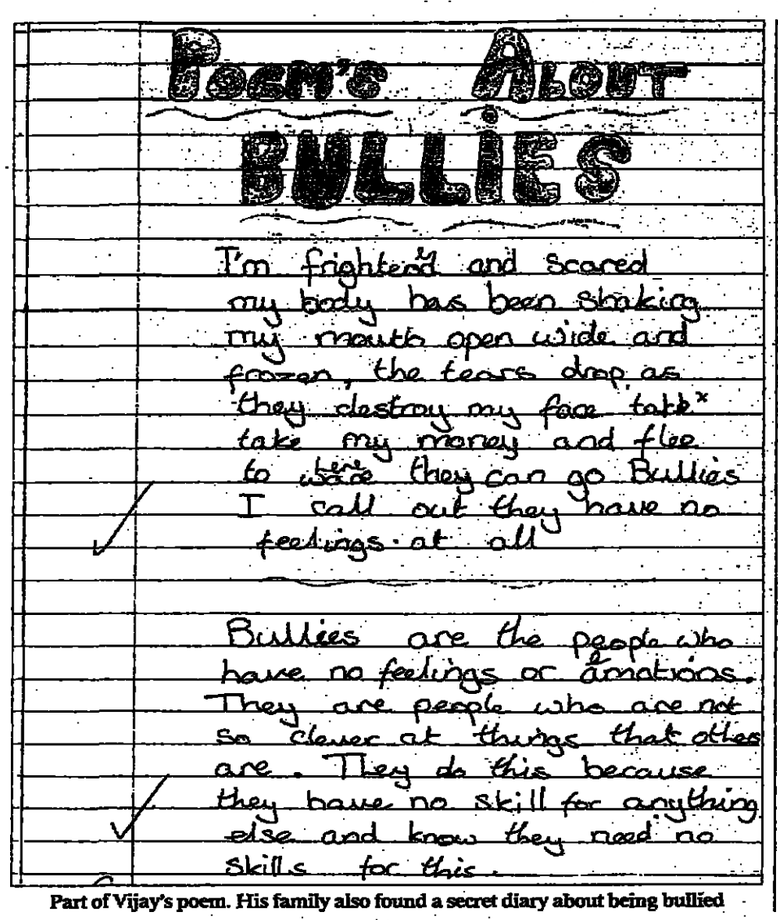
Nick Parry, Vijay's sports teacher, said: "He was an absolute superstar and a dream to teach sports to. I had no idea of him being bullied at school and staff in general aren't aware of a bullying problem. He was a very strong young man and stood 5ft 8in, which made him an exceptional athlete for his age."

ChildLine, the telephone advice service for children, said: "It is so important for people to pick up on signals from children about bullying, even if they are indirect. Children, and especially boys, find it very difficult to talk about this and even harder to talk about racist bullying."

Vijay, the eldest of six children, was a Manchester United fan but never saw a match at Old Trafford because his father feared his son might fall victim to racial taunts.



Vijay Singh Shahiry: taunted over turban



Poem's About BULLIES

I'm frightend and scared my body has been shaking my mouth open wide and frozen, the tears drop as they destroy my face take my money and flee to where they can go Bullies I call out they have no feelings at all

Bullies are the people who have no feelings or emotions. They are people who are not so clever at things that others are. They do this because they have no skill for anything else and know they need no skills for this.

Part of Vijay's poem. His family also found a secret diary about being bullied

Head is asked to quit after exam result fall

A LEADING independent school headmaster has been forced to resign by governors, who are believed to be disappointed by a drop in A-level grades (David Charter writes).

Cheltenham College announced yesterday that Peter Wilkes, 55, would leave next August after seven years in the post. A-level scores fell this summer while rival schools saw grades increase.

Air Commodore David Atherton, the school secretary, said the college council had decided that a new head was needed "to carry the school into the next century". The average A-level points per pupil this summer at Cheltenham College, where fees are £12,000 a year for boarders, was 21.2, compared with 22 last year. At Cheltenham Ladies' College, students gained 27.2 points against 23.7 last year, and, at nearby Dean Close School, A-level points were up from 24 to 24.3.

Mr Wilkes announced earlier this year that the 600-pupil school, founded in 1841, was to become fully co-educational. He refused to comment on his apparent dismissal.

MCC calls new vote on women members

BY JOHN GOODBODY

THE Marylebone Cricket Club will get another chance next year to vote on its ban on women members.

Colin Ingleby-Mackenzie, the new MCC president, appealed to members in the club newsletter to consider a "modern approach". Five years ago they voted by 4,727 to 2,371 to continue barring women from membership.

Mr Ingleby-Mackenzie said: "We must not be frightened by the opposite sex, who are keen cricketers and lovers of the game. It may be that a modern approach might be in the best interests of the club."

Rachael Heyhoe Flint, the former England women's captain, who campaigned against the ban in 1991, said: "This is absolutely splendid." She added that the president's support would help women's chances.

The MCC's exclusion of women has debarred it from receiving lottery funding to help to redevelop Lord's for the 1999 World Cup.

SATURDAY IN THE TIMES



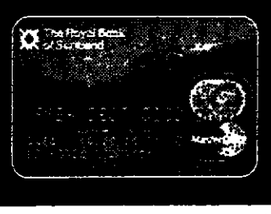
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Unspoilt bars are being gutted and refitted, suffering 'the equivalent of ethnic cleansing'

Beer guide calls time on destruction of historic pub interiors

BY ROBIN YOUNG

THE traditional British pub is as much in need of protection as stately homes and historic churches, according to the *Good Beer Guide*.

The 1997 edition, published today by the Campaign for Real Ale (Camra), carries for the first time a national inventory of pubs whose unspoilt interiors make them of outstanding importance to the national heritage. In Camra's view, they should qualify for special protection.

"Pubs do not figure highly in the minds of planning committees and regulatory bodies. Over the years buildings of invaluable national importance have been destroyed," Jeff Evans, the guide's editor, said.

Research for the inventory started in 1991, when Camra's pubs group, devoted to saving pub interiors from gutting and refitting, was hoping to find 500 unspoilt pubs worth listing. They have discovered 179, 72 of which are also recommended for the quality of their beers.

The inventory includes some of the great Victorian and Edwardian "gin palaces" of the big cities with extravagant decorative tiling, glasswork and mahogany fittings. Among them — "veritable cathedrals among historic pubs" — are The Bartons Arms in Birmingham, The Crown Liquor Saloon in Belfast, The Princess Louise in central London and The Philharmonic in Liverpool.

The list includes less obvious gems with the warning: "Plain, rural beer houses — time-warp establishments — are probably the most threatened species of our pubs." Typically consisting of one plain room, sometimes with a beer counter, such pubs are throwbacks to another age but still provide a living for often elderly licensees. "Though lacking architectural refinement (and therefore not readily qualifying for the protection of statutory listing), they are, in many ways, the most precious of our pubs because so few of them now remain."

Research for the inventory suggests that no more than a dozen or so such establishments are left. All those that have been found are included in the list, among them The Drewe Arms in Drewsteignton, Devon, and The Red Lion at Ampney St Peter, Gloucestershire.

Great interwar roadhouses of the city suburbs figure prominently, having proved prime candidates for transformation into themed eateries or nightspots. The guide says: "They have suffered the pub world's equivalent of ethnic cleansing. Against such odds the survival of original 1920s and 1930s interiors, like those at The Nursery, Stockport, and The Three Horseshoes, Boroughbridge, seems increasingly remarkable."

Camra has co-operated with national amenity societies, English Heritage and local planning authorities in compiling its list. It is now asking for information about any intact or near-intact pub interiors that could be considered for addition.

The guide, while this year emphasising the threat to pubs, also says there are increasing pressures on beer. It cites opposition from Brussels to the guest beer law, the importation of more than a million pints of beer a day from French supermarkets and the European Commission's forthcoming decision as to whether the traditional tied tenanted pub should be allowed to continue.

The best beers being sold today are better than ever, the guide says, and 68 new breweries have started in the past 12 months, all over the British Isles. "Britain now has over 400 brewers producing more than 2,000 real ales", Mr Evans said. "The success of new brewers is clear from the *Good Beer Guide's* beers of the year." He said that companies set up in the past two decades had taken the majority of the awards, and traditional family brewers the rest. "Only two national brewers get a mention, and those are for bottled beers."

Mr Evans added: "The beer scene has never been more colourful. There are more reasons than ever to visit the pub."

☐ *Good Beer Guide 1997* (Camra: £10.99)

Leading article, page 23



CRISPIN RODWELL

The much-admired interior of The Crown Liquor Saloon in Belfast, which is owned by the National Trust

Regulars give brewer's name change the bird

REGULARS at the Plough in Dulwich, southeast London, have been angered by a brewer's plans to rename the pub the Goose and Granite (Robin Young writes).

There are already Goose and Granites near by in Catford and Clapham and Bass Taverns plans to refit 25 pubs to the formula by the end of next year. Regulars at the Plough collected 400 signatures on a petition objecting to the company's proposal, planning permission has been granted.

Bass Taverns said: "We want to create a brand name to give customers a consistent standard and formula which they will find in every Goose and Granite they visit."

Businessman says MI6 backed 'betrayal' of Falklands war dead

BY MICHAEL EVANS

A BUSINESSMAN who claims to have been a spy for MI6 says that his controller encouraged him to help Argentine Navy chiefs to refurbish their warships in breach of an arms embargo imposed after the Falklands invasion.

Clive Russell, 64, a former Royal Navy lieutenant and Tory councillor, has admitted taking part in a covert Argentine plot to buy vital Rolls-Royce spare parts for two flagship destroyers. However, he accuses Britain's Secret Intelligence Service of doing nothing to stop the secret rearming programme, although he passed on vital intelligence about it.

He says that his MI6 controller encouraged his actions, even though they were in breach of the embargo and a "betrayal of those who died in the Falklands war", because of the benefits of gaining intelligence about the Argentine military. Mr Russell decided to reveal his part in what was called Operation Tigre and tonight he tells his story in a one-hour special programme for Channel 4's *Dispatches*.

Operation Tigre, allegedly masterminded by Admiral Edgardo Segura, former Argentine intelligence chief, was set up to procure spare parts worth up to $30 million for warships that had become non-operational after the Falklands war. Many were former Royal Navy vessels, replacement parts for which were unobtainable under the embargo.

Mr Russell says he was already working for MI6 in his capacity as a businessman in Argentina when he was approached in 1987 by Admiral Segura, who asked for help in beating the embargo to find parts for the Rolls-Royce engines in the Argentine Navy's frigates and destroyers. Mr Russell says he passed this information to MI6 and was told that it could not help directly but would not obstruct him.

A company was set up in America, which had no embargo, specifically to copy Rolls-Royce engine parts. He says that although this did not breach the British embargo, the operation violated the spirit of it by enabling the Argentine Navy to patrol the South Atlantic with effective warships.

His role as a spy for MI6 was exposed, he says, and he was seized in a Buenos Aires street by a group of men who beat him up. He left Argentina in a wheelchair.

He tells the programme: "I feel terribly let down by MI6. I've been keeping this to myself for a very long period of time and it was only really because of the Scott inquiry [into the arms-for-Iraq affair] that I realised that the use of businessmen in this function would appear to be a fairly common practice."

NEWS IN BRIEF

PoWs halt Japan twin town plan

A plan to twin Weston-super-Mare with the Japanese port of Sakai-Minato has been abandoned after protests from former prisoners of war. The link was proposed by a local language student working in Japan. Alex Smith, 76, a former Royal Engineer captured in the Far East, said: "It's all very well saying forgive and forget, but I can't and neither can the thousands who went through what we did."

War crimes case

The pre-trial hearing at the Old Bailey of the prosecution of Szymon Serafinowicz, 88, of Banstead, Surrey, who is alleged to have killed three unknown Jews in Belorussia during the war, was adjourned for further inquiries.

Mud guard

A network of mud springs near Wootton Bassett in Wiltshire has won protection as a Site of Special Scientific Interest. But the springs, which often produce fossils, are not unique, as first thought. Others have been found near by.

Abduction charge

A 51-year-old man has been charged with abducting a ten-year-old girl in Paignton, Devon, on Sunday and will appear before magistrates in Torquay this morning. The girl was found on Monday on the outskirts of Exeter.

Thrown together

A collection of 150 airline sick bags has been put on display by Worthing Museum, West Sussex, after being donated by Jenny Davey, a hairdresser from Horsham. It is part of a display called *My Favourite Things*.

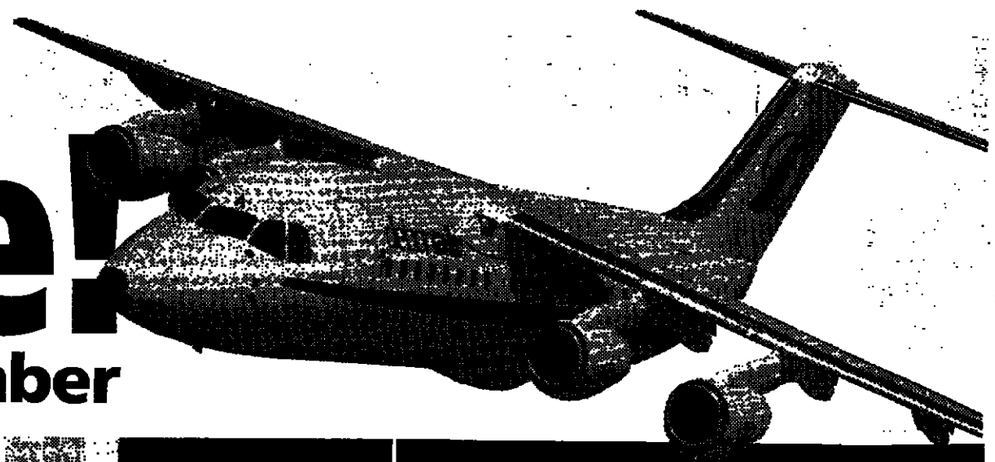
Wader watch

Birdwatchers gathered at dawn at Greenabella Marsh, near Hartlepool, for the first sighting in Britain of the great knot, an 11in black-chested wader. It had strayed while migrating from Siberia to warmer climes.

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Sèvres Protocol found in desert archive

Secret accord shows Eden lied over Suez

BY EVE-ANN PRENTICE

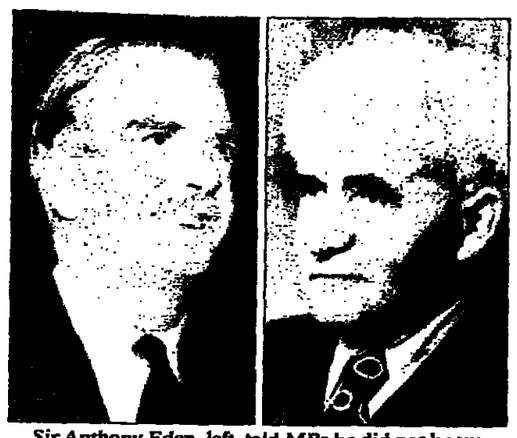
A SECRET document has come to light which proves that Sir Anthony Eden lied to Parliament and colluded with Israel and France to manufacture an excuse for bombing Egypt during the Suez crisis.

The document, which Eden tried to have destroyed, is signed by representatives of Britain, France and Israel who met several times at Sevres, near Paris, in October 1956 to discuss the plan to attack Egypt. The Israelis' copy of the Sèvres Protocol was discovered in an archive deep in the Negev desert by a BBC team working on a documentary to be broadcast for the fortieth anniversary of Suez. After intense negotiations with the Israeli, French and British Governments, the BBC team was allowed to obtain a copy. This has been passed to *The Times*, which is making it public for the first time.

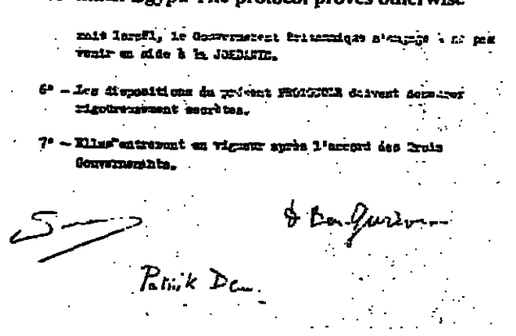
Under the protocol — signed 40 years ago next week — Israel was to attack Egyptian positions near the Suez Canal on October 29, then Britain and France would call on the Egyptian leader, Colonel Nasser, to allow Anglo-French forces into the area to ensure a clear passage for ships.

The deal, which was agreed only after reservations from Selwyn Lloyd, then Foreign Secretary, gave Eden the moral justification for the invasion of Egypt. The Prime Minister, who resigned citing ill-health shortly after the Suez debacle, had been bent on a military confrontation with Nasser despite bitter opposition from the American administration of Dwight Eisenhower, a large section of British domestic opinion and members of Britain's senior military.

British and French copies of the Sèvres Protocol are thought to have been destroyed. The Israeli copy is signed by David Ben-Gurion, then Israeli Prime Minister, Patrick Dean, Assistant Under-Secretary at the Foreign Office, and Christian Pineau, French Foreign Minister. Discovered at the Ben-Gurion archive in the Negev, it has until now been made available only to those people who were present at Sèvres.



Sir Anthony Eden, left, told MPs he did not know that David Ben-Gurion, the Israeli leader, planned to attack Egypt. The protocol proves otherwise



mais Israël, le Gouvernement britannique s'engage à ne pas venir en aide à la JORDANIE.

6° — Les dispositions du présent PROTOCOLE doivent demeurer rigoureusement secrètes.

7° — Elles entreront en vigueur après l'accord des trois Gouvernements.

D Ben Gurion

Patrick Dean

The protocol provides further proof that Eden lied to Parliament during the furore that followed the Anglo-French invasion at the end of October and beginning of November, 1956. In the House of Commons on December 20 Eden was asked, during a stormy session, whether he had had "foreknowledge" of Israeli intentions to attack Nasser's forces. He told MPs: "I want to say this on the question of foreknowledge, and to say it quite bluntly to the House, that there was not foreknowledge that Israel would attack Egypt. There was not."

Sir Donald Logan, Assistant Private Secretary to Selwyn Lloyd, was present at the Sèvres meetings and was in the House on that day. He said from his home in central London: "I was the only person in Parliament that day who knew that this was not so." Speaking on the BBC documentary, Sir Donald says: "I thought to myself 'That does amount to a lie ... you can't explain that away.'" Asked why he had not exposed the lie, Sir Donald told *The Times*: "It would have been disloyal to say the PM had lied. I think that, probably, the atmosphere has changed over the years, but I still think you can't run a successful Civil Service unless civil servants display loyalty and support."

Sir Donald says he believes the Israeli Government was anxious to respect Eden's wishes to keep the Sèvres document secret, at least during his lifetime. Eden, who was later created Earl of Avon, died in January 1977. His denial of foreknowledge transpired to be the last words he spoke in the Commons.

Sir Donald said the protocol, hastily typed in French on three pages, was signed on October 24. "I think champagne was produced but there was little sparkle in the atmosphere and Patrick [Dean] and I soon took our leave.

"On the following day ... we were instructed by the Prime Minister to return to Paris to ask the French to destroy their copy of the document. At the Quai d'Orsay we presented the Prime Minister's request to Pineau, who received it rather coldly and questioned the need and advisability of such action. He pointed out that the Israelis had returned to Israel with their copy the previous evening."

Jeremy Bennett, producer of *The Suez Crisis*, to be broadcast on BBC1 next Tuesday, said: "The lesson of Suez is that, in the modern age, countries cannot unilaterally take military action without making sure they have a great degree of international support, particularly from the military superpowers.

"These lessons had been learnt by the time of Britain's campaign in the Falklands and in the war of the allied nations against Iraq in the Gulf."

ASSIGNMENTS



The future Edward VIII, aged 16, in a Canadian Blackfoot chief's regalia in 1910

Village teachers hid album of rare royal photographs

BY JOANNA BALE

AN ALBUM of historic royal photographs found hidden at the back of a school cupboard was donated to the nation yesterday. The 100 black and white pictures feature members of the Royal Family meeting officers on the Western Front in the First World War and visiting Victoria, British Columbia, from the 1890s to the 1930s.

They were taken by a Canadian photographer, Howard Chapman, and presented to Bircham Primary School, Great Bircham, Norfolk, by Queen Mary in September 1945. One hand-coloured photograph shows the future Edward VIII dressed as a chief of the Blackfoot tribe when he was a teenage Prince of Wales.

The school, which has 29 pupils, yesterday presented the album to the Royal Commonwealth Society photographic collection at Cambridge University library. The original prints will be restored and put in archives but copies have been taken by the school. The collection also records the suffering of Canadian soldiers in the First World War, including pictures of dead troops and mutilated horses lying in the mud of Flanders.

The school is five miles from Sandringham House and used to teach estate workers' children. The black leather album is believed to have been put at the back of the cabinet after teachers decided some of the war pictures were too disturbing for children. Three years ago it was discovered by Ann Brown, a former acting head.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Tube fares to rise 4% in new year

Tube fares are to rise by an overall 4 per cent from January 5. London Transport said there would be no increase in most single bus fares, while single fares on the Underground would either be unchanged or rise by 10p.

Some single fares would go up from 90p to £1; some £1.10 fares to £1.20; some child fares from 50p to 60p. London Transport hopes the rises will raise an extra £44 million.

Jet committal

James Mullahy, 37, of Florida, was committed for trial next month on charges of drunkenness on a transatlantic flight and endangering the safety of the aircraft. He was remanded in custody and is due to appear in court again today.

1,000th heart

Papworth Hospital, Cambridge, has carried out its 1,000th heart transplant. Martin Joyce, 58, of Sawbridgeworth, Hertfordshire, received his new heart on September 25. Heart swaps began at the hospital 17 years ago.

Moth rescued

One of the rarest species of moth has been saved after a six-year conservation programme. Three reddish buff moths were found at their only known habitat in 1987 but the moth now breeds on the Isle of Wight and in Hampshire.

Shock treatment

Police in the City of London have become the first force in the country to be issued with defibrillators to save heart attack victims. The equipment, which electrically "kick-starts" a heart, will be carried in patrol cars.

Pilot's memento

The cigarette lighter carried by Reg Lucas, who died in 1941 when his Halifax bomber crashed near Aldershot after being hit by "friendly" fire, has been found and returned to his brother, Ron Lucas, of Mansfield, Nottinghamshire.



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Clinton cashes in as bank chief delivers 'feelgood factor'


Greenspan: has focused on curbing inflation

Critics of the President, who is riding high on America's economic upturn, say the great fiction of the election is that he is responsible for the recovery, **Bronwen Maddox** in Washington writes

IF PRESIDENT CLINTON is re-elected on November 5, as seems ever more likely, he can thank the "feelgood factor". At rallies across the country, he is claiming all the credit for America's current boom. But many argue that he has been lucky. As Robert Samuelson, the influential Washington-based columnist, puts it: "The great fiction of this election is that the President is responsible for the economy."

Tony Blair's economic schemes closely resemble the Democrats' ambitious 1992 agenda. The Labour leader will be helped, if he becomes Prime Minister, by the fact that Britain is enjoying an upswing whose full effects have not yet been felt, much like America when Mr Clinton gained power. In words which should be music to Mr Blair's ears, Paul Krugman, a leading American economist, argues: "The way to be a two-term President is to ride into office on a recession that started under your predecessor, and to be re-elected on the strength of the recovery."

Four years ago, when much of America was in the doldrums, Mr Clinton campaigned on the slogan "It's the economy, stupid". Back on the campaign trail, he hammers away now at statistics showing that many "ordinary people" are now better off. He is not lying. America has for the moment achieved the economic nirvana of moderate, steady growth with low inflation. Unemployment is at a six-year low and ten million jobs have been created since 1992. Low interest rates have encouraged companies to invest more and have eased the burden on mortgage payers.

According to *The Washington Post* this week, the experience of poorer people in America is much less rosy than the overall picture. "The new economy has showered its favours disproportionately on workers with more education and experience."

In defending President Clinton's record, his supporters emphasise that the government deficit budget has fallen by 60 per cent. The deficit — the gap between the Government's annual income and spending — has a prominence in American politics which is mystifying to Europeans.

In the United States, the real significance of the deficit is symbolic, a powerful sign about whether the Government is out of control. Many Americans appear to feel, as Margaret Thatcher did, that if households and shopkeepers can balance their budgets, so should governments. On this symbolic level, Mr Clinton can claim full marks. But many argue that it is Alan Greenspan, the Federal Reserve Bank chairman, who should be given real credit for current confidence. He has focused on beating inflation, even when that meant brief rises in interest rates. Peter Domenici, the Senate budget chairman who is close to Bob Dole, the Republican presidential candidate, says that one of Mr Clinton's most successful actions has been to reappoint Mr Greenspan for a third term.

Ironically, the President has two policies — education and trade — which may have a profound effect on growth, but the impact will be invisible for decades and they rank well below the economy in his speeches. Mr Clinton makes too much of the Internet's ability to reach slum children, but his plan to give tax credits for school fees brings applause. Trade policy, hardly mentioned in the campaign, may prove even more important. Despite protectionists in both parties, he pushed through the North American Free Trade Agreement and the global General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade.

Those pacts may eventually earn him a place in the history books: they stand head and shoulders above most achievements of his first term. But if Americans want to anoint someone as their economic champion on the basis of the past four years, they might do better to look to Mr Greenspan.

Hoffa son stakes claim to lead father's union

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN CLEVELAND, OHIO

HE IS a short, powerful man with piercing, pale blue eyes and built like a refrigerator. Midway through our interview he leans towards me and suggests, menacingly: "If you want to do a correct story on this election, you will go with what I tell you."

One would normally ignore such a warning, but this is Jimmy Hoffa, son of the legend who with Mafia help built the Teamsters into the world's most powerful but infamous union before vanishing 21 years ago. I am disinclined to argue: we are alone in the anteroom of a hall in industrial Cleveland, and outside the door 300 beefy supporters have gathered to greet him.

The election is for the Teamsters' presidency, and Mr Hoffa is battling to unseat Ron Carey, the incumbent, in a contest so vicious that the race for America's presidency looks positively cuddly.

Mr Hoffa claims Mr Carey's presidency has been a disaster that has bankrupted his father's union, betrayed its members and left it impotent. He calls him the witting "tool" of a Government bent on keeping the Teamsters weak. He vows to return the union to its glory days when his father boasted he could "shut down everything that moves" and Robert Kennedy called him "the most powerful man in the country next to the President".

Mr Carey insists he is reversing the union's long decline. His campaign has published a 33-page booklet documenting Mr Hoffa's alleged ties to mobsters, and calls "Junior" the "front man" for a corrupt old guard fighting desperately to regain power before Mr Carey purges them.

Mr Hoffa is a 55-year-old labour lawyer who never held a genuine blue-collar job and had to be given a sinecure by a Detroit Teamsters' local (branch) to be eligible to run. He has little to offer save a potent name, and even then his memory is highly selective.

He boasts of how his father built the Teamsters into a force of 2.2 million members, tripled their wages, gave them middle-class status and was "one of the great labour leaders of the century". The 1992 movie *Hoffa*, starring Jack Nicholson, "didn't portray his warmth and commitment to working people", he said.


Hoffa Sr: vanished in July 1975

But beyond admitting that "none of us are saints" he will not discuss how his father allied himself with the Mafia, let it use the union's vast pension funds to build Las Vegas casinos, and allowed mobsters to turn locals into personal fiefdoms. In 1957 the Teamsters were expelled from the labour movement.

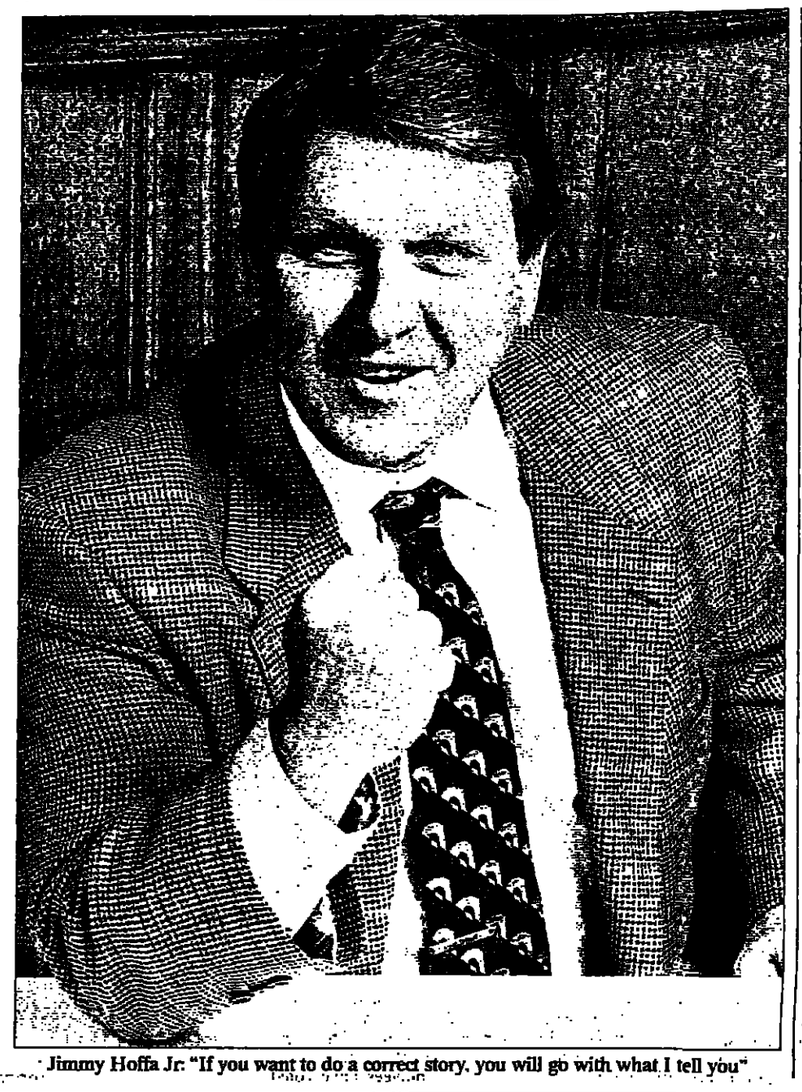
This autumn's ugly confrontation is the result of that criminality. In 1967 Hoffa went from the Teamsters' Capitol Hill headquarters — the "Marble Palace" — to jail. After four years President Nixon pardoned him.

When he tried to regain the presidency from his hand-picked Mafia-backed successor, he was lured to a meeting outside a Detroit restaurant on July 30, 1975, and disappeared. His son says he was murdered by "people with links to organised crime" because "they didn't want my dad coming back".

Hoffa vanished but the corruption persisted. Another president followed him to prison. A third died before being convicted. Finally, in 1989 the union averted a federal racketeering suit by agreeing to hold its first free leadership election and let independent investigators root out corruption.

Mr Carey, a former New York van driver, won that poll. He has sold the union's two jets and stretch limousines, removed 200 corrupt officials, cracked down on those collecting multiple salaries, and put 65 of the Teamsters' 579 locals into "trusteeship" for offences ranging from extortion to Mafia infiltration. One was the Chicago empire William Hogan, Mr Hoffa's running-mate, inherited from his father and used to steer lucrative contracts to his family. "I'm living proof that nepotism works," Mr Hogan once boasted.

At the Cleveland rally Mr Hoffa promised to restore the locals' autonomy, end government interference and "crusade to take back this great union". He pumped the air with his fist as the crowd chanted: "Hoffa! Hoffa!". People handed him $100 notes. It seemed impressive until one spoke to the supporters individually. Some were ordinary members drawn by the Hoffa name. The great majority turned out to be local Teamster officials — apparatchiks from the union's Jurassic wing desperate to preserve their fat livings.


Jimmy Hoffa Jr: "If you want to do a correct story, you will go with what I tell you"

Touch of glitter for mourners

FROM QUENTIN LETTS IN NEW YORK

AN AMERICAN undertaker is launching a line of fashion jewellery for the bereaved. It is intended to help those who have been left behind to "let go" of the dear departed.

The range of brooches and necklaces, including broken-heart designs and teardrops, will be unveiled at next week's National Funeral Directors' convention in Ohio. "Cremation jewellery" is the official term, but "mourner chic" might also do.

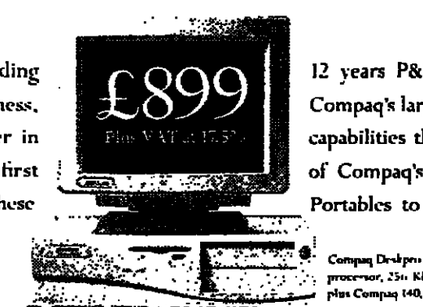
The pieces, which range in price from $1,900 to $10,000 (£1,200 to £6,300), have been created by Lester Lampert, a gem expert who has designed jewellery for such luminaries as television's Barbara Walters and the agony aunt Ann Landers. Mr Lampert also designed the official paperweight that marked the Pope's visit to Chicago.

In collaboration with Terry Dieterle, an Illinois undertaker, he has assembled baubles for grieving families. The items are hollowed out and filled with some of the dead person's ashes or perhaps a lock of hair taken from the corpse — a practice not unknown in Victorian England.

The Dieterle/Lampert collection, with gems or gold, can be placed in show boxes made of cherrywood that can be placed on the mantelpiece as a conversational aid during post-funeral silences.

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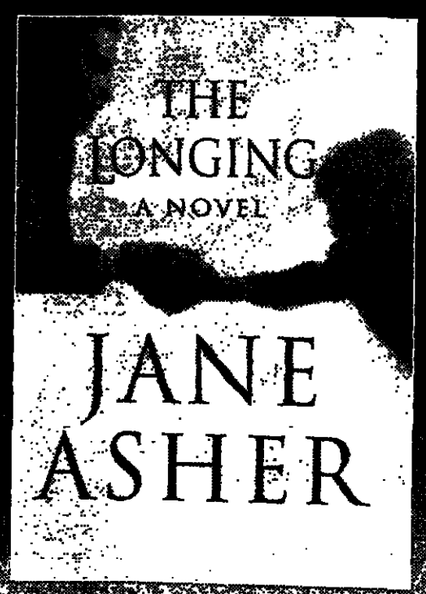
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Henderson yesterday

Drug-case Briton faces hell of Gulag

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN MOSCOW

IF THE British teenager, Karen Henderson, 18, accused of smuggling cocaine into Russia, is found guilty and sentenced today she will face prison conditions straight out of the pages of Alexander Solzhenitzyn's harrowing accounts of the Gulag.

While much of Russian society has changed in the five years since the break-up of the Soviet Union, the prison system remains an unreconstructed monster, described in one recent United Nations report as "inhuman".

With the prosecution calling for a seven-year custodial sentence, Miss Henderson could become the first British prisoner to be sentenced to a Russian jail term.

At the trial yesterday, Claudia Skulina, the prosecutor, told the three-judge panel that Miss Henderson knew exactly what she was doing when she flew from Havana to Moscow last February and was caught by Customs officers with 10lb of cocaine concealed in two false compartments of her suitcase. Sergei Lebedev, the presiding judge, is due to deliver his judgment today.

In the event of a guilty verdict, her most likely destination would be the work camp for foreign prisoners in Mordovia, a region some 500 miles southeast of Moscow. Most of the inmates are Chinese and Vietnamese workers and businessmen. But there is also a growing number of Westerners, including two Dutch citizens who were found guilty of drug smuggling earlier this year.

A Dutch diplomat, who recently visited the facility, reported that although the prison was clean and appeared orderly, the living conditions were "very poor".

However bad life is in the penal camp, it is bound to be an improvement on Miss Henderson's current conditions in Moscow's Butyrka remand prison, where she has had to share a cell with 70 women. Hygiene is very poor and disease is rife.

Commissioners rebuff Santer to leave sanctions loophole for governments

Brussels sets stiff terms for budget delinquents

FROM CHARLES BREMNER IN BRUSSELS



CARL DUYCK

Jacques Santer, left, and Yves-Thibault de Silguy announce the proposals yesterday for ensuring budget stability under a single currency

THE European Commission yesterday approved a scheme for stiff penalties against states which run high budget deficits inside monetary union. But, in an unusual rebuff to Jacques Santer, its President, and to Germany, it left open a loophole that could soften the blow for delinquent governments.

The 20 Commissioners backed a system for big financial sanctions to enforce permanent fiscal virtue among states that espouse the euro in January 1999. However, the Commissioners rejected the executive's plan for a narrow definition of the special circumstances which would let offenders off the hook.

Mr Santer and Yves-Thibault de Silguy, the monetary Commissioner, found themselves caught in a vice. Germany, the driving force behind the so-called stability pact, brought heavy pressure for a figure to define the minimum economic downturn that would exempt a country from sanctions. Mr Santer, who is already under fire from Helmut Kohl, the German Chancellor, for allegedly weak leadership, warned his colleagues of German ire if they rejected the desires of Frankfurt and Bonn, Commission sources said. However, President Chirac of France telephoned before the session to urge Mr Santer against setting a figure, sources said.

The Commission's draft had proposed a year of negative growth of 1.5 per cent of gross domestic product as the threshold for ruling that a country was suffering from the exceptional circumstance of recession. Commissioners from all states except Germany, The Netherlands and Austria rejected the approach in favour of allowing latitude to take account of all circumstances at the time.

Neil Kinnock and Sir Leon Brittan, the two British Commissioners, joined their colleagues in a fierce rejection of rigid thresholds, Commission sources said. Sir Leon argued that, while everyone favoured rigour, it was time to stop being pushed around by the Bundesbank, continental sources said. The special circumstances envisaged in the pact could stem from a recessionary cycle or be triggered by external upheaval, such as natural disaster or events such as the collapse of communism and German reunification, M de Silguy said.

Mr Santer hailed the Commission's approval of the pact and other measures for linking non-EMU states with the currency as proof that Europe was "on the home straight" for monetary union.

The scheme, which is to be completed by EU leaders in Dublin in December, is aimed at deterring states from straying from the tough budgetary limits set out in the Maastricht treaty. The idea was born of the German desire to ensure that countries which opt for draconian budgets next year, to qualify for the Maastricht criteria, stick to the rules once they are inside the new zone.

France, Italy, Spain and other states are all in the throes of passing exceptional "Maastricht" budgets, but Germany doubts the ability of the Mediterranean states in particular to stay the course.

Under the proposed sanctions, countries which fail to correct deficits of more than 3 per cent of GDP will have to pay up to 0.5 per cent of their GDP into a central fund after ten months. If they fail to return to virtue, the funds will become a fine and after two years a new deposit will be required. Continued profligacy over a long period could trigger an accumulation of mammoth fines that would threaten political upheaval. This prospect is causing states such as France, Italy and Spain to seek a flexible approach to the sanction plan.

Mr Santer said the stability pact and plans for a new Exchange Rate Mechanism, also approved yesterday, had "closed the gap in the Maastricht treaty".

Strikes threaten Paris with traffic-jam chaos

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN PARIS

FRENCH public-sector trade unions hope to cause widespread chaos today when civil servants, teachers, air traffic controllers, health, rail and power workers strike in protest over the Government's austerity drive to meet the criteria for economic and monetary union (EMU).

Today's one-day strike, the first big upsurge of industrial unrest since last winter's crippling stoppages, is a critical test of strength, pitting union muscle against the Government's determination to push through painful cuts in the name of a single European currency.

Many government offices will be closed and striking rail workers are expected to reduce mainline train services to a third of normal, although the Eurostar service between Paris and London is likely to be unaffected, officials said.

Metro and bus services in Paris predict only marginal disruption, but suburban train services to the capital will be reduced drastically, forcing many commuters to take to their cars. City officials warned motorists yesterday of big traffic jams on roads in and out of Paris.

Air traffic is also likely to be disrupted by the protest. Long-distance flights may survive largely unscathed, but domestic and medium-haul services are expected to be cut to a fraction of normal service. Postal employees have voted to join the strike, with gas and electricity workers, but power cuts are not expected.

The strikes are timed to coincide with continuing parliamentary debate on next year's budget, which freezes spending and cuts about 6,000 civil service jobs as part of the drive to qualify for the single currency in 1999. Civil service wages have been frozen since last year and the strikes reflect rising anxiety over unemployment, now at a record 12.6 per cent.

Father says he slit throat of Belgian paedophile

FROM LEVLA LINTON IN BRUSSELS

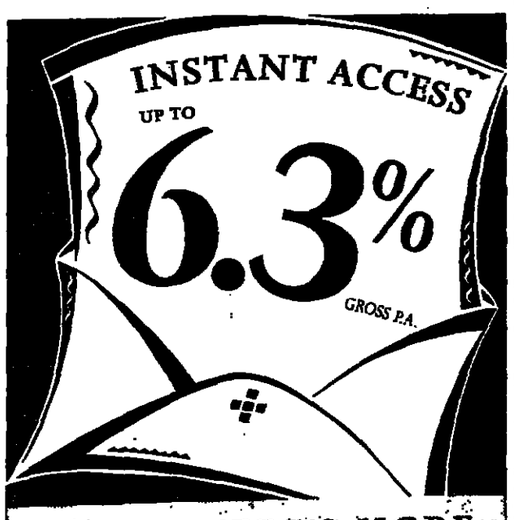
A BELGIAN ambulanceman has admitted slitting the throat of a paedophile given a suspended jail sentence for sexually abusing the man's handicapped daughter, legal sources said yesterday.

The man, not identified, told authorities he killed Edgard Claes with a kitchen knife last Friday in rage at the sentence. Claes, 47, had been convicted last week of abusing the 11-year-old twice in 1995.

The case comes amid widespread outrage over the dismissal of the judicial investigator into Belgium's child sex abuse and murder scandals. Jean-Marc Connerotte had won the people's trust and his removal has united the linguistically divided country.

Unofficial strikes by public workers spread yesterday in protest at the weekend decision by the Cour de Cassation, or Supreme Court, to remove Mr Connerotte from the Marc Dutroux case. It ruled he had shown bias by attending a dinner in support of parents of missing children.

Thousands of transport workers, car workers and firefighters have all taken part in strike action and demonstrations in the past two days. About a dozen protesters have vowed to stay outside Brussels' Palais de Justice until Sunday, when more than 50,000 people wearing white will march through the city to remember six kidnapped girls, four of whom were murdered. Mr Doutroux has been accused of the crimes.



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They believe that only the people have the right to decide the future of Britain as a nation. Not its politicians.

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If you support the aims of the Referendum Party, call FREEPHONE 0800 919753 (lines open 7am – 11pm 7 days a week), or write to the Referendum Party, PO Box 1, Portishead, Bristol, BS20 8BR. Please quote REF T/17/10.

This advertisement prepared by Banks Hoggins O'Shea on behalf of the publisher: the Referendum Party, 1st Floor, Dean Bradley House, 52 Horseferry Road, London SW1P 2AF.

China vows to stop Hong Kong press criticising leaders

FROM JONATHAN MIRSKY IN HONG KONG

QIAN QICHEN, the Chinese Foreign Minister, raised the political temperature in Hong Kong yesterday by saying that after the transfer of sovereignty next year, the territory's annual demonstrations against the Tiananmen Square massacre will be illegal and the press will not be allowed to criticise China's leaders.

In an interview with senior journalists of *The Asian Wall Street Journal*, Mr Qian said that dissidents must obey the law and cannot "hold political activities which directly interfere in the affairs of the mainland of China". Asked if that prohibition specifically included the Tiananmen memorial demonstrations that take place in Hong Kong each year, the Foreign Minister said: "That kind of thing."

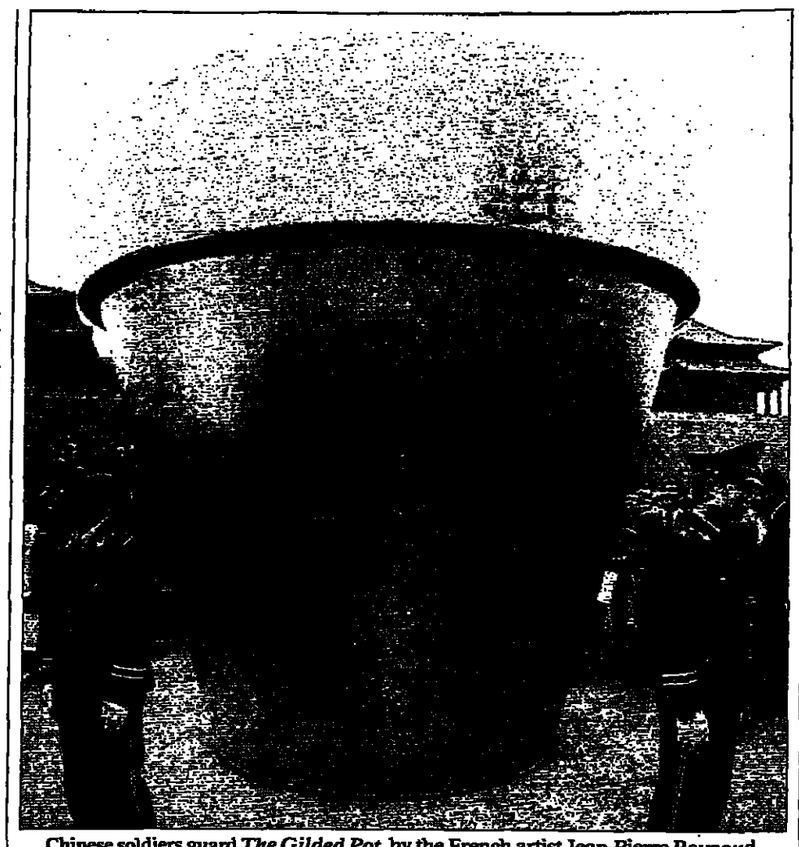
As for the media, Mr Qian said they would be banned from "putting forward personal attacks on the Chinese leaders. That would not live up to the morality of the occupation and is not comparable with personal moral ethics as well." Asked where these issues were stated in the law, Mr Qian said: "There is no stipulation on whether there can be attacks or not be attacks. I do not believe laws will make such stipulations."

Asked if people would be jailed for anti-Tiananmen protests or personal attacks on leaders, Mr Qian replied that, as with those who actually demonstrated in the square in 1989, "they cannot possibly all live in jail for the jail is not big enough". A Government House spokesman said last night: "Bang goes 'One country, two systems', and bang goes the rule of law."

The Foreign Minister was far more conciliatory on the conflict with Japan over islands in the East China Sea. The tiny uninhabited atolls, called Diaoyu by the Chinese and Senkaku by the Japanese, are under Japanese rule and have been the focus of demonstrations in Hong Kong, Taiwan, and Macau. Although he said the islands belonged to China, Mr Qian added: "The issue should be resolved through diplomatic negotiations. If conditions are not ripe, it can be solved later." This has been the Chinese position for two decades and is regarded as weak-kneed in Hong Kong and in Taiwan.

He took a similarly long view of United States bases in Asia. China generally preferred countries to keep their troops at home, Mr Qian said, but added that "the situation left over from history exists" and the treaty under which America protects Japan "is absolutely understandable".

☐ **Preparing the way:** Winston Lord, the US State Department's senior East Asian specialist, was in Peking yesterday for talks with Chinese officials in preparation for the visit next month of Warren Christopher, the Secretary of State.



Chinese soldiers guard *The Gilded Pot*, by the French artist Jean-Pierre Raynaud, which is on display in Peking's Forbidden City, near the Gate of Supreme Harmony

Warning of Golan offensive by Syria

BY CHRISTOPHER WALKER AND TOM RHODES

NEW fears of a clash between Israel and Syria arose yesterday after a top Israeli intelligence officer gave a warning in the Knesset that Syria was preparing for a possible military attack if it concludes that there is no peaceful way to regain the Golan Heights, lost in the 1967 war.

The officer spoke as state-controlled Damascus Radio broadcast its most belligerent commentary in recent weeks, accusing Binyamin Netanyahu, the Israeli Prime Minister, of acting against peace and massing more troops on occupied land in southern Lebanon and the Golan.

At the same time, Yassir Arafat, the Palestinian leader, angrily rejected the latest Israeli plan for redeployment in the occupied West Bank city of Hebron. On a visit to Cairo, Mr Arafat said of the plan to divide the city and allow Israeli troops the right of hot pursuit into Palestinian areas: "It is a dangerous operation. It shows Israel's aggressive intentions in Hebron."

Israel television reported that Brigadier-General Amos Gilad, head of research in military intelligence, told the Knesset defence committee: "The Syrians are talking about a military option, are preparing for it and it will be implemented in accordance with developments."

Although the session took place behind closed doors, identical accounts of the warning appeared in the press. *Haaretz* quoted the general as saying that the aim of military action — for which training was already under way — would be to try to impose a diplomatic solution on Israel.

The White House reacted with scepticism last night to the general's claims, but said the response of the United States to any Syrian attack would be very strong.

Analysts in America are convinced that President Assad, who often sends conflicting signals about his intentions, is too wary of defeat by Israeli forces to risk conflict over the Golan.

A senior official at the National Security Council said: "We are watching the situation very closely."

NEWS IN BRIEF

Japan in range of missile

Tokyo: North Korea is preparing to test a medium-range missile with the potential to threaten Japan, heightening tensions here (Robert Whymant writes). Japan's Self-Defence Agency said yesterday that North Korean observation ships were in position in the expected impact area in the Sea of Japan.

A US reconnaissance satellite confirmed that North Korea had moved the launch platform of its Rodong-1 missile, which has a range of 600 miles, out of its base in the east. So far, Pyongyang has given no warning of an imminent test. Regional tensions have been high after North Korean commandos landed in South Korea last month.

Kasparov check

Jerusalem: Natan Sharansky, the Israeli Trade Minister and a former Soviet dissident, was victorious in one of a series of simultaneous matches played here by the grandmaster, Garry Kasparov. *(Reuter)*

Croatia joins up

Strasbourg: The Council of Europe has decided to admit Croatia as its fortieth member after a delay of six months caused by human rights concerns in the former Yugoslav republic. *(Reuter)*

Kidnap arrests

Frankfurt: Police searching for Jakub Fiszmann, the kidnapped German millionaire, have arrested five people and recovered a DM4 million (£1.6 million) ransom, but did not find the captive. *(AP)*

Nigerians freed

Lagos: Three opposition leaders jailed on suspicion of murdering the wife of Chief Moshood Abiola, the self-declared president of Nigeria who is imprisoned, have been freed after four months. *(AFP)*

Mosquito order

Delhi: Indian ministers told Delhi officials to prosecute home owners who fail to eradicate mosquitoes, which have caused a dengue fever outbreak in which more than 150 people have died. *(Reuter)*

Couch potatoes inflate US figures on obesity

FROM QUENTIN LETTS IN NEW YORK

MORE than half of the population of the United States is now officially fat, according to the latest findings. It is the first time that the portly have numerically outweighed the lean in America.

A meeting of the North American Association for the Study of Obesity heard that, under a new method of gauging fitness, 59 per cent of American men and 49 per cent of women fall into the fat category. Two age groups were noticeably plump: the over 50s and children. In the late 1970s, only a quarter of the country's adult population was officialy regarded as being overweight.

Katherine Flegal, a researcher with the National Centre for Health Statistics, said that the prevalence of television remote controls may have helped to create the problem. Viewers no longer even have to rise from their armchairs to change channel. She added that, with people afraid of crime, they sometimes decide against leaving the home to exercise.

The figures suggest that the endless proclamations on American television about diets and exercise are no match for the big helpings traditionally served by the country's restaurants and the fatty content of their fare.

Albert Stunkard, a scientist at the University of Pennsylvania, blamed "just eating too much", while Tim Byers, of the University of Colorado, said: "It has been clear for years that Americans are getting fatter but that process is accelerating. That is troubling.". Ms Flegal reported that cholesterol levels and blood pressure were being kept in check, but diabetes appeared to be on the rise.

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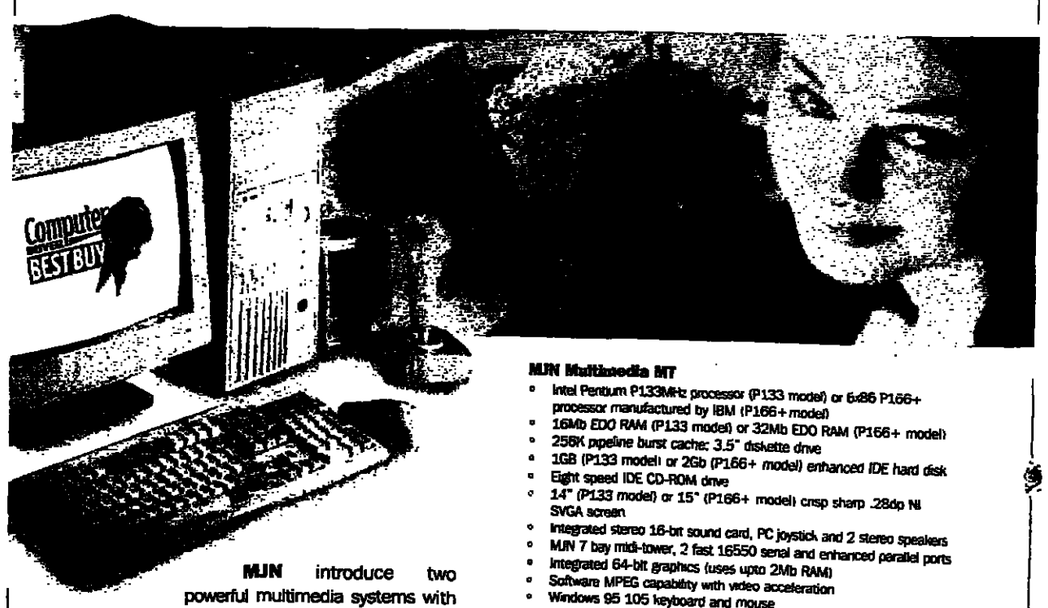
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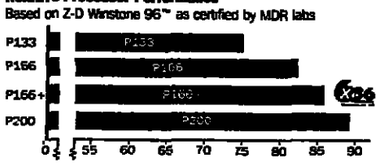


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Ousted Government warns Taleban forces to abandon Kabul or face bloodbath

Thousands flee as battle for Afghan capital sharpens



Christopher Thomas reports from Kabul as the Islamic forces reply to an ultimatum by sending in their warplanes

THOUSANDS are fleeing the battle for control of Kabul, raging 12 miles north of the Afghan capital at the foot of the Hindu Kush mountains, despite peace talks between the city's Taleban rulers and a northern warlord.

The war intensified yesterday in both words and weapons. The ousted Government warned Taleban to quit the city or face a bloodbath: Taleban replied by sending its decrepit Russian warplanes on bombing runs.

The immediate objective of government forces is the seizure of Bagram military airbase, near the heavily fortified Panjshir Valley where General Ahmed Shah Masood, their military commander, has his headquarters. He said that Taleban, which captured Kabul three weeks ago, was being offered a last chance for peace. Its troops should get out or they would be pushed out.

Villages around Bagram are emptying as people escape intense close-quarters fighting. The fall of the airbase would enable General Masood to bring his warplanes, believed to be parked in Kunduz province in the far north, close to the battleground. General Abdul Rashid Dostum, the northern warlord who is a military ally, could then also bring fighter planes to Kabul's doorstep if he joins the attack.

General Dostum's forces are still not taking part in the fighting, but there is joint discussion of strategy and a sharing of resources. He has greater firepower than General Masood, who had to leave much of his hardware behind when he abandoned Kabul on September 27, and is capable of intense bombardment of the city, three fifths of which is estimated to have been destroyed in earlier battles.

General Dostum held peace talks yesterday with Mullah Muhammad Ghaus, Taleban's acting Foreign Minister, Afghan sources said. They said the meeting at Qala-i-Jangi fort outside Mazar-e Sharif, near the Uzbek border, was also attended by Naseerullah Babar, the Pakistani Interior Minister. The talks are due to continue today.

Despite that, General Masood appears to want to dominate the offensive. It still rankles with him that when he rode triumphantly into Kabul in April 1992 after the fall of the Communist Government he did so on a Dostum tank. His forces fanned out through the city in a meticulously planned operation in which the police stations were first disarmed, followed by the establishment of roadblocks at strategic points. It was over in hours and without heavy shelling. He seems to want to repeat that slick operation.

Taleban's planes have bombed the town of Jabal os-Siraj where General Masood has set up his forward base. There were few casualties but property was damaged. Earlier this week the small town of Charikar, to the south, was also bombed. The sound of aircraft sends everybody dashing for cover: low clouds moved across the area yesterday afternoon, bringing an opportunity for people to flee in safety.

Shirmohamad Stanekzai, a minister in Taleban's Foreign Ministry, warned Russia against aiding General Masood last night. He said that Russia, which is worried by Islamic extremism in the region, had threatened to intervene if Taleban forces reached the border of the former Soviet republics. "If they interfere in our affairs, we are ready to create problems for them by interfering in theirs," he said.

Mullah Muhammad Mutaqi, the Taleban Culture and Information Minister, said that Kabul had been reinforced with 5,000 additional soldiers brought from the south, though there was no obvious evidence of that on the city's streets yesterday. He spurned an offer by General Dostum for Kabul to be controlled jointly by all sides. The "killers" of the old Government would not be allowed to return.

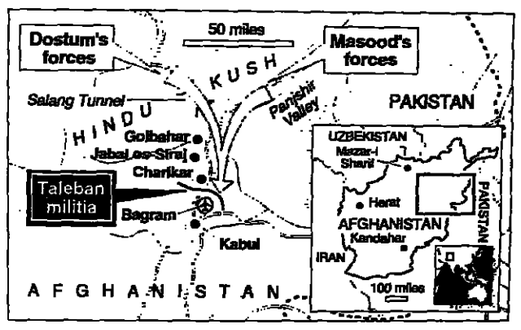
"We will cleanse the rest of the country of the enemies of Afghanistan," he said. Afghanistan would be purified. Reports that young men were being rounded up and forcibly recruited into the Taleban army amounted to propaganda spread by the ousted Government. Taleban had come to save the people, not oppress them, he said.

This is not a sentiment widely shared by the citizens of Kabul, where repression is intense and intensifying. There is fear of renewed fighting in the capital and those with the resources — who are few — are getting out. Many families were boarding buses at the bus station yesterday for the long journey to the Khyber Pass and the bleak safety of Pakistan.

Pakistan is desperate to rid itself of Afghan refugees, who have contributed significantly to the country's culture of violence and destabilised its North West Frontier Province, a principal centre of the international drugs trade.



A girl brings food for her family at an Afghan refugee camp in Peshawar, Pakistan



Lone woman runs risk of militia's vengeance to care for 800 orphans

BY CHRISTOPHER THOMAS

THE 800 children of Kabul orphanage are hidden victims of Taleban's ban on women working. There is nobody to care for them, save for an elderly cook, a few male minders and one brave woman who turns up secretly every day.

She has been beaten once by Taleban soldiers for being on the street without good reason — women are allowed out only for shopping — but she continues to make her way to the squalid, windowless institution each day. "The children need a little love," she says. She hurries home at dusk, hoping a Taleban patrol will not spot her.

The orphanage has not a single toy, not one game, no heating or lighting, and precious little food. The children have tea and dry bread for breakfast. For lunch and dinner, there is peas, beans and rice. There is no money for meat: the institution has faced a financial crisis since Taleban captured Kabul last month.

It is financed partly by the United Nations Children's Fund (Unicef) but much of the money is reportedly not getting through. There are inmates as young as six months and as old as 20. Some were left by mothers too poor to feed them.

The kitchen is a filthy, soot-covered dungeon with openings for smoke to escape. Giant iron cauldrons are heated by wooden fires: the cook, who cuffs children sneaking an extra handful, stirs the pots with a shovel. It is pure *Oliver Twist*. Children sit on benches in silence at ranks of bare tables. The lone woman fusses around — a heroine who could be flogged or lose a limb for this kindness.

She worked at the orphanage before Taleban came, when there were 30 women teachers. "How can we abandon these children? They have nothing left. I can give them a little affection. It is not enough but it is all I have." She no longer gets paid and is sinking into poverty. She is a widow with children of her own: her previous salary of 90,000 afghanis (£4) a month enabled her to survive.

Another widow arrived in full *burqa* to see the five children she recently abandoned. She threw off her veil contemptuously: until Taleban came she never wore one. Across the wall, in a large room lined with cots, was written "We trust in God." A dozen babies cried in their cots or crawled around, untended.

There are 290,000 children in Kabul aged under five, according to Action Contre La Faim, which conducted a survey of child nutrition. One third of all children are sick: half are moderately or severely stunted. Half have no father. Before the Islamic fighters arrived, it was estimated that Kabul had 24,000 acutely malnourished children. Because their mothers are not allowed to work, the figure must now be substantially higher.

Women have died during childbirth in Kabul since Taleban came because they were too afraid to go to hospital. Doubtless some children have died for the same reason. It is estimated that one child in six dies in Kabul before the age of five — one of the world's highest mortality rates. There are countless child beggars in the capital. Mothers, fully veiled, sit in the street with babies in their laps, begging for food, victims of Taleban's ideology.

Friday, 18 October
at 10:00 pm (British time)

New numbering plan in France



How to call France from the United Kingdom

On 18 October 1996 at 10:00 pm British time, France will switch to a new telephone numbering plan. These changes anticipate for the ever increasing volume of telecommunications traffic in France (new services, fax, mobile phones, etc.). This new plan provides a reserve of numbers for several decades to come and marks a further step towards harmonization with European directives and international recommendations.
This New Telephone Numbering Plan applies to all numbers you call in France. To call a number in France from the United Kingdom, after 00 simply dial the country code 33, followed by a 9-digit number.

9 digits to call all numbers

To call the "provinces" (outside Paris and the Paris region)

Depending on the location, dial 2, 3, 4 or 5 in front of the current number, which remains the same.

The digits to be added are shown on the area code map and in the area code table.

For example: 00 33 20 .. .. becomes 00 33 3 20 .. ..

Add:	To the current number beginning with:	Add:	To the current number beginning with:	Add:	To the current number beginning with:
3	20	2	48	4	76
3	21	5	49	4	77
3	22	4	50	4	78
3	23	2	51	4	79
3	24	5	53	3	80
3	25	2	54	3	81
3	26	5	55	3	82
3	27	5	56	3	83
3	28	5	57	3	84
3	29	5	58	3	85
2	31	5	59	3	86
2	32	3	60	3	87
2	33	5	61	3	88
5	34	5	62	3	89
2	35	5	63	4	90
2	37	5	65	4	91
2	38	4	66	4	92
2	39	4	67	4	93
2	40	4	68	4	94
2	41	4	69	4	95
4	42	4	70	2	96
2	43	4	71	2	97
3	44	4	72	2	98
5	45	4	73	2	99
5	46	4	74		
2	47	4	75		

Last valid at March 31, 1995

To call Paris and the Paris region

There are no changes. You will continue to dial the 9-digit number which begins with 1.

For example: 00 33 1 .. ..

To call mobile numbers

To call a mobile phone, dial 6 before the current 8-digit number, which remains the same.

For example: 00 33 01 .. .. becomes 00 33 6 01 .. ..

Add:	To the current number beginning with:	Add:	To the current number beginning with:
6	01	6	07
6	02	6	08
6	03	6	09
6	06		

Remember...!

Don't forget to update your personal directory. If necessary, modify all French numbers (including speed dialing) stored in your equipment: telephones, fax machines, etc.

How to phone when you are in France

For all calls within France, dial 0 before the 9-digit number. The domestic long distance access code, 16, will no longer be used.
To call another country from France, dial 00 (instead of 19).

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Security tightens at Vienna Christie's as wartime loot goes under the hammer

Austria confronted by Nazi past in sale of Jewish treasures

FROM ROGER BOYES IN VIENNA

THE Vienna outlet of Christie's will be under heavy guard from next week as the British auction house prepares for one of its most sensitive sales: a hoard of art stolen from Austrian Jews by the Nazis.

In the age of letterbomb politics — and the seemingly unstoppable rise of the far Right — the auction is regarded as a potential target of racists in a country struggling to come to terms with its past.

"Austria must not be allowed to become [like] Switzerland," Hans Rauscher, a Vienna commentator, says, welcoming the Christie's sale. While Switzerland is being confronted with its wartime amorality of taking over Nazi gold and Nazi bank accounts and discouraging the search for their Jewish owners, Austria is at last coming clean about its wartime booty.

The sale of the 7,000 pieces, stored in the Carthusian monastery of Mauerbach outside Vienna, is as much a political event as an artistic celebration. But not all members of the Jewish community, helping to organise the sale, are satisfied that all efforts have been exhausted in trying to trace the owners of the hoard.

"They gave me five minutes to get my coat and my handbag," a Jewish woman, arrested in her Vienna flat in 1939, wrote in a letter from New Zealand in 1965. In the corridor, she had turned around and stared at the painting that she and her father adored: it was a work by Friederich Gauermann. What was started by her search for the painting will culminate on October 26 with the Christie's auction.

That letter was addressed to Simon Wiesenthal, the Nazi-hunter and head of the Vienna-based Jewish Documentation Centre. "Somebody would like to buy the painting and the money would really help," she wrote. "I'm growing old and I've got bills to pay."

The Nazis looted paintings, sculptures and silver pieces from Jewish and non-Jewish homes. The Allies discovered the caches and ordered Austria to trace the owners. Almost 10,000 artworks were returned. But Austrian enthusiasm was lukewarm.

The 1955 Treaty of Vienna, establishing the modern Austrian state, obliged it to continue with the search: this was a difficult task since Jewish survivors were dispersed and Austria did not invest a great deal of energy in it. After half-hearted attempts to publicise the hoard, bits of it were declared ownerless and sold off. The rest was stashed in Mauerbach or loaned to Austrian museums and galleries.

Herr Wiesenthal insisted that detailed lists of the works be distributed worldwide through Austrian embassies. The list was compiled and published in Austria but few claimants heard about it. Even when a law was passed in 1969, giving owners more time to lodge claims, the authorities seemed to find reasons for not handing over the artworks. The parallel with the churlish Swiss banks, which discouraged Holocaust survivors from discovering their old accounts, was strong. Between 1969 and 1972 thousands of applications were received but only 71 were settled. A second law, passed last year, accelerated matters a little, but survivors of the Holocaust were already beginning to die. "This story will not figure on our role of honour," said Judge Reimar Gradischnik, who has successfully restored 400 pieces. The Mauerbach collection includes mainly 19th-century German and Austrian painters such as Rudolf von Alt. Works of some of Hitler's favourite painters, such as Hans Makart, are included. Although the money raised will be mainly distributed to Jewish charities, there is a nagging suspicion among Jews that Austria has only taken a small step towards admitting its role in the Holocaust. For decades, Austrian officials shrugged off inquiries about the Mauerbach collection by saying much of it was worthless kitsch. This was a deception since Austrian museums were anxious to get their hands on many works, but the claim also misses the point. "The people I have seen have been in search of memories, not fortunes," Judge Gradischnik said. One woman showed him death certificates of 14 relatives to prove her identity. "After you have seen that, do you then press her as to whether the background colour of a claimed oil painting is light blue or light green?"





Paintings on sale include *Portrait of a Lady in Red Bonnet*, by Hans Makart, admired by Hitler, and *In the Schtetl*, by Ludwig Knaus

William Rees-Mogg, page 22
Books, page 41



Priebke: freed by tribunal after admitting massacre

Italy embraces Priebke retrial as chance to learn from war

FROM RICHARD OWEN IN ROME

THE decision to retry Erich Priebke, 83, a former SS officer, for a massacre was welcomed yesterday as an opportunity for Italy to face its wartime ghosts.

"The past has come back to haunt us," said *La Stampa*. "We expect a just verdict which will, once and for all, put an end to this terrible chapter in our recent history." It added that the three-man military tribunal that tried Priebke for war crimes, in proceedings often bordering on farce, had made a fundamental error when it ordered him freed in August. But the chairman of the tribunal, Judge Agostino Quistelli, defended the verdict, which found Priebke guilty of the massacre in March 1944 of 335 men and boys at the Ardeatine caves on the Appian Way just outside Rome, but set him free because of "mitigating circumstances". There was a public outcry, and Priebke was immediately rearrested because of a request by Bonn for his extradition for trial in Germany. He is still in jail in Rome.

Judge Quistelli made clear that the "mitigating circumstances" had included Priebke's age. "I tried an old man who represents no danger to society and who committed a crime over half a century ago," he said. Outraged relatives of the massacre victims accused the judge of being biased in favour of Priebke. A lower court rejected this, but this week the Supreme Court overruled the lower court decision and ordered a retrial. It is expected within three months.

Judge Bruno Rocchi, who also sat on the tribunal, said "only a madman" would agree to preside over the retrial. "They are doing all they can to ensure Priebke dies in jail," he said.

Carlo Taormina, a defence lawyer, said that the Supreme Court had dispensed "political justice", and Priebke should be transferred to house arrest.

Tullia Zevi, leader of the Jewish community in Rome, said too many Italians wanted to sweep the Fascist past and Mussolini's alliance with Hitler under the carpet. "This is an important history lesson for Italy, and especially for the young, at a time when the far Right is again on the march in Europe," she said.

Il Messaggero said the retrial "must be used by all of us, including the media and the schools, to tell the truth about the Second World War, its causes and bloody dramas, the gratuitous ferocity of the Fascists against the weak and defenceless, and the brave resistance to the dictators by the democracies, led by the British. It would be a bad thing for Italian democracy if the memory of those terrible years disappeared".

The problem of facing the past has also been raised by new evidence from Klaus Voigt, a German historian, showing that Mussolini was told about the systematic elimination of the Jews by the Nazis in the summer of 1942. Some Italian historians maintain that Il Duce did not know about the Holocaust until much later in the war. *La Repubblica* said Herr Voigt had documents proving Mussolini was told the truth at an early stage by Italian commanders in Eastern Europe and by the German Ambassador in Rome.

The victims of the Ardeatine caves massacre — a reprisal for an Italian partisan ambush on a German patrol — included Communist partisans and Italian Jews taken from the Rome ghetto. Priebke, who was extradited from Argentina last year, admitted killing two of the victims and checking the names of others on a Gestapo list as they got off the lorries.

His defence was that he was obeying Gestapo orders and would have been shot himself if he had disobeyed.



هكذا من الأصل

Poem on bullying found after Sikh schoolboy's death

BY DAVID CHARTER, EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

POLICE are investigating the death of a Sikh schoolboy who hanged himself days after describing the misery of being bullied in a poem praised by his teacher.

Vijay Singh Shahiry, 13, also left a scribbled diary at home which read: "I shall remember this for eternity and will never forget. Monday: My money was taken. Tuesday: Names called. Wednesday: My uniform torn. Thursday: My body pouring with blood. Friday: It's ended. Saturday: Freedom." On Sunday, his body was found hanging from the banisters of his home in Stretford.

Vijay, who wore a turban, was the target of racial taunts from rival players and spectators when he played at junior football matches, police said. Phil Wrenn, of Greater Manchester Police, added: "We have interviewed pupils and teachers at Vijay's school and the early indications are that any bullying which did take place happened when he was travelling to and from school.

"It is too early for us to say whether this racial abuse and any bullying which may have taken place led him to take his own life."

Vijay died days after being given a merit award by his English teacher for his "excellent" writing about bullying. Vijay's family realised only after his death that his school work drew on a secret diary.

His mother, Nickey, said: "We were completely shocked. We discovered a diary of bullying in his jotter pad and that is the only clue. His last school work was about bullying. He was a dream son."

Vijay's poem about bullies reads: "I'm frightened and scared. my body has been shaking, my mouth open wide and frozen, the tears drop as they destroy my face. Take my money and flee to where they can go. Bullies I call out, they have no feelings at all.

"Bullies are the people who have no feelings or emotions. They are people who are not so clever at things that others are. They do this because they have no skill for anything else and know they need no skills for this.

"Bullies are bad and selfish people. They are also cowardly people, cruel and evil people. They are more than all this but they're also guilty. They hurt us with words, hurt us with body contact, but not clever." His teacher wrote: "Excellent work, Vijay."

His mother said: "It is clear to me he was being bullied horrifically. The description in his project and in his jotter pad prove it. I wish he had told someone. He was very close to his family, but he didn't tell a soul. There were so many people he could have turned to for help."

The school declined yesterday to discuss Vijay's piece of writing, which was his second on bullying. Barbara Howse, the head teacher, described him as an able boy, a superb sportsman and a brilliant member of the school. "He was liked and respected by pupils and teachers alike."

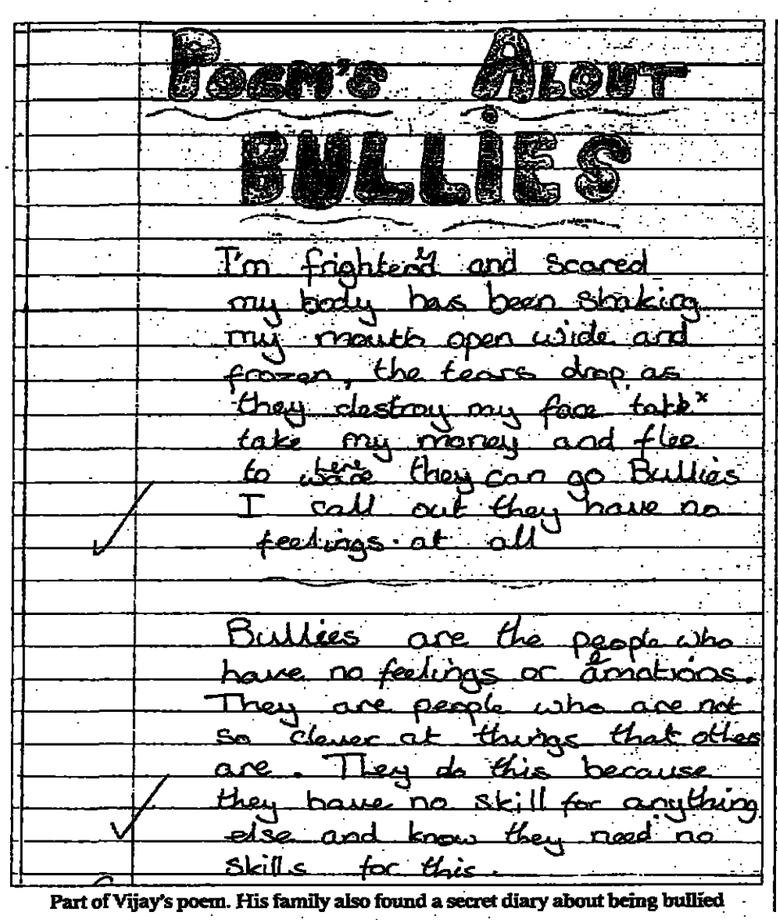
Nick Parry, Vijay's sports teacher, said: "He was an absolute superstar and a dream to teach sports to. I had no idea of him being bullied at school and staff in general aren't aware of a bullying problem. He was a very strong young man and stood 5ft 8in, which made him an exceptional athlete for his age."

ChildLine, the telephone advice service for children, said: "It is so important for people to pick up on signals from children about bullying, even if they are indirect. Children, and especially boys, find it very difficult to talk about this and even harder to talk about racist bullying."

Vijay, the eldest of six children, was a Manchester United fan but never saw a match at Old Trafford because his father feared his son might fall victim to racial taunts.



Vijay Singh Shahiry: taunted over turban



Poem's About BULLIES

I'm frightend and scared my body has been shaking my mouth open wide and frozen, the tears drop as they destroy my face take my money and flee to where they can go Bullies I call out they have no feelings at all

Bullies are the people who have no feelings or emotions. They are people who are not so clever at things that others are. They do this because they have no skill for anything else and know they need no skills for this.

Part of Vijay's poem. His family also found a secret diary about being bullied

Head is asked to quit after exam result fall

A LEADING independent school headmaster has been forced to resign by governors, who are believed to be disappointed by a drop in A-level grades (David Charter writes).

Cheltenham College announced yesterday that Peter Wilkes, 55, would leave next August after seven years in the post. A-level scores fell this summer while rival schools saw grades increase.

Air Commodore David Atherton, the school secretary, said the college council had decided that a new head was needed "to carry the school into the next century". The average A-level points per pupil this summer at Cheltenham College, where fees are £12,000 a year for boarders, was 21.2, compared with 22 last year. At Cheltenham Ladies' College, students gained 27.2 points against 23.7 last year, and, at nearby Dean Close School, A-level points were up from 24 to 24.3.

Mr Wilkes announced earlier this year that the 600-pupil school, founded in 1841, was to become fully co-educational. He refused to comment on his apparent dismissal.

MCC calls new vote on women members

BY JOHN GOODBODY

THE Marylebone Cricket Club will get another chance next year to vote on its ban on women members.

Colin Ingleby-Mackenzie, the new MCC president, appealed to members in the club newsletter to consider a "modern approach". Five years ago they voted by 4,727 to 2,371 to continue barring women from membership.

Mr Ingleby-Mackenzie said: "We must not be frightened by the opposite sex, who are keen cricketers and lovers of the game. It may be that a modern approach might be in the best interests of the club."

Rachael Heyhoe Flint, the former England women's captain, who campaigned against the ban in 1991, said: "This is absolutely splendid." She added that the president's support would help women's chances.

The MCC's exclusion of women has debarred it from receiving lottery funding to help to redevelop Lord's for the 1999 World Cup.

SATURDAY IN THE TIMES



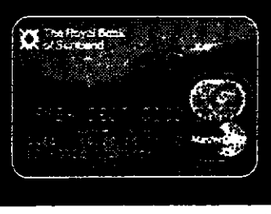
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An ex-sailor's remedy for a wilting libido



Dr Thomas Stuttaford on a new condom, Caesarean sections, danger signs for Boris Yeltsin, curious bequests and a yew tree drug

Keith Jones, at 42, still looks a traditional Dartmouth educated Naval officer. He looks spruce and clean cut and speaks with a serviceman's precision. He had expected to spend a lifetime in the Royal Navy, but soon realised that defence cuts and a shrinking fleet meant that his career prospects were limited and that he would fare better in civilian life.

As Keith has had an engineering training, he joined an civilian engineering firm and became an international expert on power stations. This expertise was in demand and before he was 40, he was able to move to a comparatively leisurely existence in Monte Carlo.

But Keith is not a man to be inactive and once in Monte Carlo, looked for a way to use his engineering and design skills. While in the Navy he had been impressed by the jokes the sailors made about the difficulties of fitting a condom. The naval jokes may have been coarse but they exposed a real problem, known in the more polite medical circles as condom impotence. The difficulty of removing a condom from the packet and putting it on, while still retaining enthusiasm was more than the fragile libido of some men can withstand, so that by the time it is fitted, it is no longer needed.



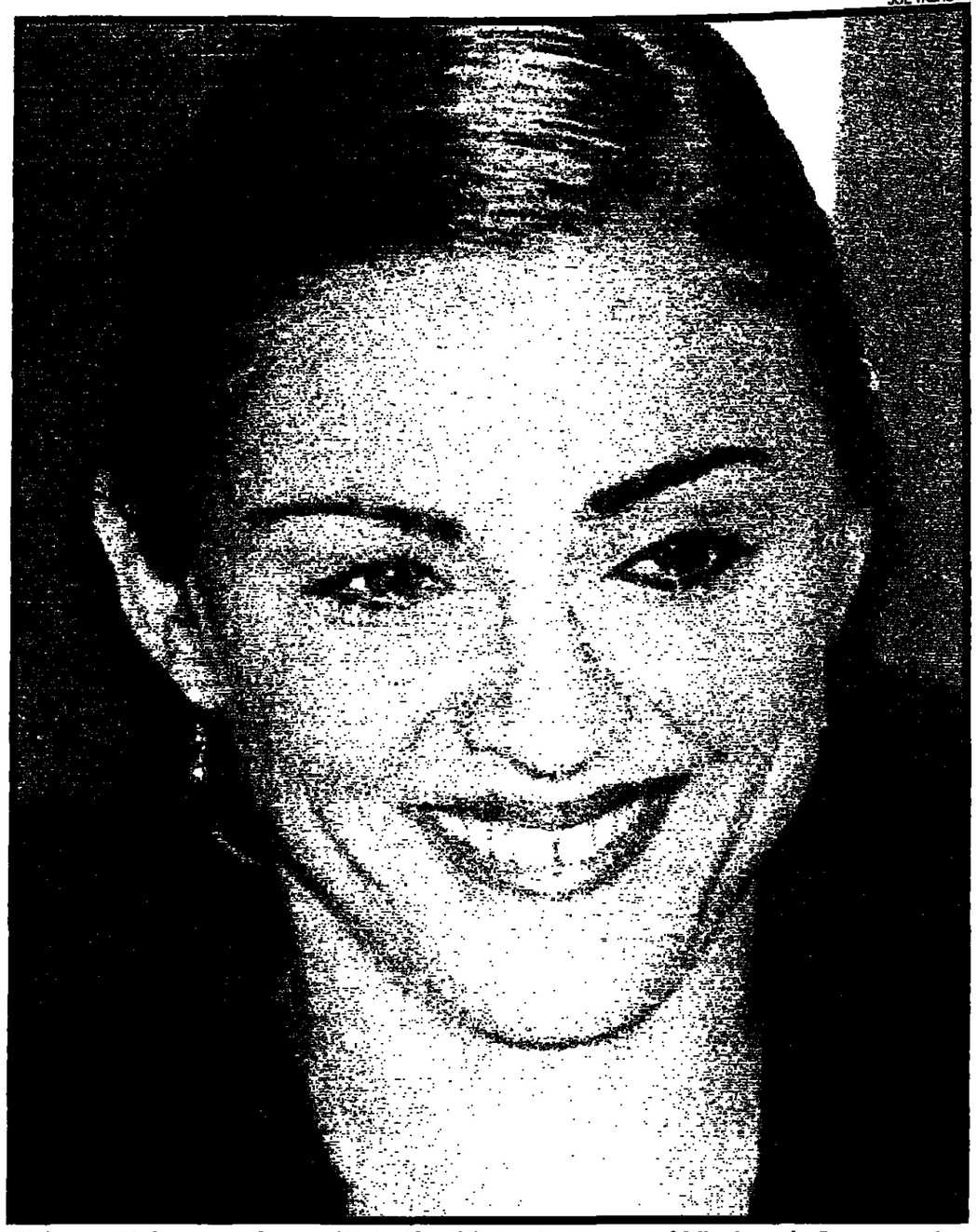
Love can bring problems as a former naval officer found

Keith has designed a plastic pack, manufactured near Cannes, which enables the condom provided by the leading Japanese manufacturers to be extracted easily and always the right way up, ready for immediate application. The base of the condom is surrounded by a split, plastic ring which makes it easy to roll on but, once on, the ring can be quickly discarded. Its ease of fitting means that eye contact between the lovers may never be lost, which is important emotionally and physically, that it is not torn which is essential for contraception and that it expands readily and so does not split when first applied.

He explained that his experience in commerce after he left the Navy had taught him that any product which had been unchanged for two generations, like contraceptives, was wide open for competition. He realised that the time taken to fit a condom, the inability to immediately adapt to all sizes and conditions of men and their messiness had been tolerated for 50 years, but had limited their use. By using his training in design, he had been able to overcome these problems and now felt that he could supply a commodity which when it had gained international acceptance, would help cut the number of unwanted pregnancies and sexually transmitted diseases.

The condom, marketed as Topaz, is now available in chemist shops and plans are under way to dispense them from slot machines.

JOE TABACCA



Birth pangs: Madonna wanted a normal birth, although in America 20 per cent of deliveries are by Caesarean section

Madonna judged too harshly

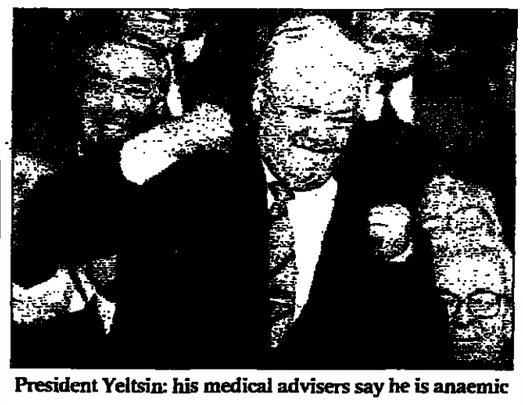
THE BIRTH of a child is one of the most important days in a woman's life, and Madonna, whose daugher. Lourdes Maria Ciccone Leon was born in a Los Angeles hospital this week, is no exception. Reports before the birth hinted that the singer might use her power and influence to opt for a slick and pain-free delivery. An option, it was implied, which her doctors were happy to agree to, thereby avoiding any unforeseen problems of a normal delivery that could have resulted in litigation.

The public judged Madonna, and her doctors, too harshly. She hoped to have her baby vaginally, and she even expressed a desire before the birth not to have any pain-killing drugs during labour.

Madonna is a fitness fanatic, but even so she is 38 and having her first child, so there was reason to suppose that she would have a greater likelihood of needing a Caesarean section than a younger woman, or a woman of her age who had already had other babies. Anecdotal evidence suggests that very athletic women (and Madonna exercises for many hours a day) sometimes have more difficult labours. Traditionally, it has been assumed, as far as I know without scientific evidence, that the very well developed pelvic musculature of physical education instructors, athletes and super-fit physiotherapists tend to delay rather than expedite labour.

Though paediatrician Dr Paul Fleiss, who supervised the delivery at the singer's request, announced yesterday that the delivery had been natural, the fact remains that, in America, 20 per cent of deliveries are by Caesarian section. In Britain we still do not match this figure, but the percentage is beginning to creep up.

The dangers signs confront Yeltsin



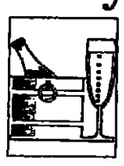
President Yeltsin: his medical advisers say he is anaemic

EARLIER this week it was reported that Russian President Boris Yeltsin's doctors are again disturbed by their patient's condition, and that preparations for surgery have been delayed by abnormal findings in his blood. Later, his medical advisers issued a denial saying there was no trouble, other than that the President was anaemic.

However, anaemia is a symptom, not a disease, and it is a frequent finding in patients with either advanced kidney or liver disease.

One ominous cause of anaemia is bleeding from oesophageal varices, enlarged varicose veins in the oesophagus, which can complicate cirrhosis. There's always a danger that an oesophageal vein may rupture and bleed catastrophically.

Dying in comfort



JOAN Thirkettle's bequest to her oncologist, Dr Geoffrey Tobias, of a bottle of champagne a month, so long as she remained at the Middlesex Hospital, should help to remove some of the taboos surrounding death. Choosing a kindly and above all knowledgeable doctor, who can enable a patient to have as smooth an end to life as possible is almost as important as selecting a competent obstetrician to give a baby the best possible start when they are delivered into the world.

Miss Thirkettle's gratitude for the way in which Dr Tobias looked after her in her last months was touching. But not everybody is able to share Miss Thirkettle's good fortune in being cared for by Dr Tobias, but they can discover his philosophy on cancer: he has just written a book *Cancer: What Every Patient Needs To Know* (Bloomsbury £6.99). It is authoratitive and optimistic for, of course, many cases of cancer are eminently treatable. Dr Tobias's book describes the various conditions, all cancers are different, and the treatments available. He deals in a straightforward and honest way with the problems of palliative and terminal care.

Although Dr Tobias's champagne is an unusual bequest, patients do sometimes make curious wills. When I was in practice in Norfolk, a local landowner, aged and with severe asthma, was very worried about what would happen to her chauffeur after she died. One day she told me she had solved the problem of finding a kindly employer to look after him when she was dead, she was going to leave him to me together with a trust to pay his wages. By the time she died I had disappeared to Parliament, but my successor, whom I chose for her with care, not only inherited the chauffeur but also her estate.

A chance for life



TAXOL is one of the drugs made from yew trees, and is again in the news. It prolongs the life of many patients who have cancer of the breast, tending to be reserved for younger women who have rapidly spreading disease and are resistant to other treatments. Anna Labella, 33, was recently recommended by North Middlesex Hospital for treatment, in the hope that it would prolong her time with her family. Enfield and Haringey health authority had refused because of cost, but agreed, saying that no more patients will be treated until more is known about the drug. Professor Karol Zikora of the Hammersmith Hospital was quoted in the *BMJ* as saying that Taxol and Taxotere did prolong life, although the full picture was not yet known.

THE TIMES

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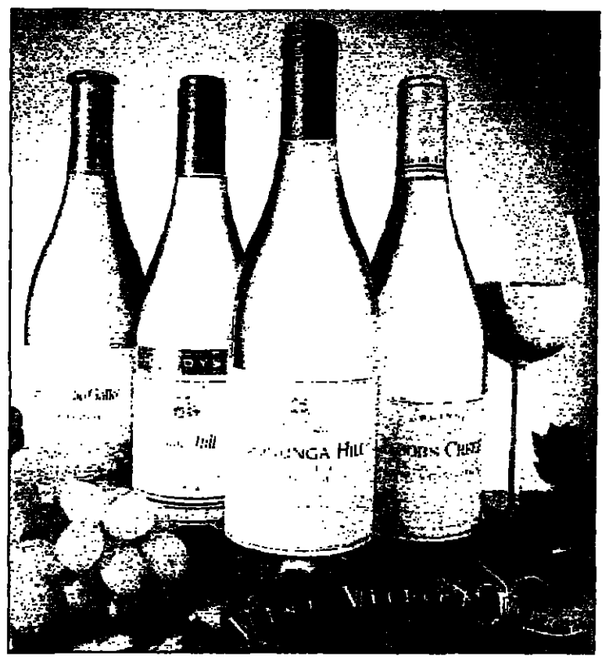
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The wronged wife at bay

This time, he has definitely gone too far. So, what is a girl to do? Jane Shilling considers the options



Jerry Hall has talked to lawyers about splitting from the errant Mick Jagger, while Elizabeth Taylor married Richard Burton twice. He described their life as "marvellous . . . but murder"

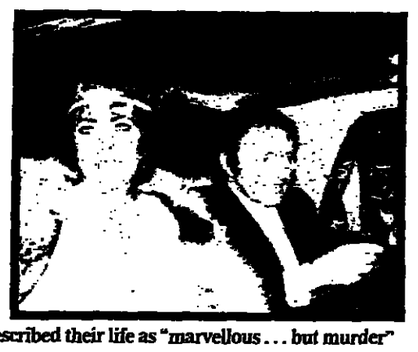
MARTIN BEDDALL



Paddy and Jane Ashdown: she stood by him



David and Judith Mellor: she kept quiet



Well, she's done it now, and no mistake. Jerry Hall, I mean. By consulting Anthony Julius, the Princess of Wales's suave and scholarly divorce lawyer, she has progressed from firing blanks to live ammunition in her latest marital skirmish with the errant Mick. Her patience with his indiscreet philandering in the course of their 20-year relationship (they did not marry until 1990) has been exemplary — she once admitted that "Mick's never going to change". But now she's had enough — or possibly it's just that she feels she has explored to its limit the extent of a woman's repertoire of tactics for dealing with the exquisite humiliation of such very public infidelity.

It may be of some comfort for Jerry to reflect that her difficulty with the grandfatherly rocker is one for which women have been trying since the world began to come up with a satisfactory solution. The shock and misery of being betrayed is the same whether one is a celeb whose domestic life routinely makes the front pages of the tabloids, or Mrs Jones whose old man's defection with the busty harlot from the Goat and Compasses has kept the corner shop amused for weeks on end.

> 'The instinctive reaction of women is to blame themselves'

So what's a girl to do when she finds herself in this plight? The number of options is not huge — and Jerry seems to have explored most of them. The instinctive reaction of many women is to shoulder the blame themselves. If a long moment of critical self-examination reveals red eyes, a shiny nose, stretch marks and a sex life for which moribund would be too animated a word, the temptation is to do something drastic.

Attempts to pep up a flagging sex life with aphrodisiacs have been known to backfire very badly. Mme de Pompadour, Louis XV's mistress, feared at one stage that the King's interest in her was cooling because of her lack of initiative on the *chaise longue*, and promptly put herself on a diet calculated to "warm the blood". This, consisting largely of hot chocolate and celery, soon made her unwell — and even less keen on sex than before.

The traditional aristocratic response to infidelity is to pretend that Nothing Is Happening — just don't frighten the horses. Jerry has been terribly good at this, dismissing impertinent interlopers such as Carla Bruni in much the same grand manner as Bianca Jagger once dismissed *her* ("Jerry *who?*").

The middle-class version, much practised by the wives of erring politicians, is Good Behaviour. If I am very, very patient and don't Make A Scene perhaps virtue will be rewarded and he will come back to me and everything will Be All Right. Thus we are presented with the painful spectacle of nice women such as Jane Ashdown and Judith Mellor "coping" — facing the cameras in their best Jaeger two-piece, gripping their husbands by their Savile Row sleeves as though standing at the bridge of a foundering ship, their faces a smiling mask in which courage is blended with mortification.

But the temptation, particularly with a serial adulterer, must be to find some satisfaction in making his life as horrible as he has made yours. The great question here is whether active or passive aggression gets the better result.

Expert practitioners of the active form include Elizabeth Taylor, whose drunken brawls with Richard Burton provoked him to describe their relationship as "Marvellous ... but murder"; Dame Maggie Smith, about whom her former husband Sir Robert Stevens plaintively remarked: "It was like living with knives", and the splendid Lady Graham Moon, who scissored her wayward husband's suits, distributed the contents of his wine cellar around the county and, with all the forthright energy of the British countrywoman at bay, formed a support group, the Old Bags' Club, for wronged wives. Holder of the Oscar for Lifetime Achievement in aggressive victimhood is, of course, Diana, Princess of Wales, whose mastery of the techniques involved can only be described as inspired.

A few alternatives remain. Arranging to have another baby; a really good fit of hysterics, or a high-profile affair. (Jerry went for a brisk canter around the paddock with Robert Sangster, the effect of which on Mick was dramatic, if temporary.)

Come to think of it, perhaps we needn't feel too bad for Jerry after all. She is made of tough stuff, as Clive James discovered when he interviewed her and other supermodels after they finished their final stint on the catwalks at the Paris collections. "So, girls," said Clive, "how are you feeling?" "Exhausted," said the models. All except Jerry. She raised one eyebrow and said in her Texan drawl: "I feel *richer*." If the day of her decree absolute dawns, and she finds herself doorstepped by reporters, you can bet she'll give the same answer.

Carers' champion

Valerie Grove talks to Alf Morris, MP, about his efforts to get help for people who care for disabled relatives

We all know someone in this situation. Tied to the home, looking after an elderly relation or a handicapped child, day in, day out. We think: "Doesn't anyone ever give *them* a break?" And we do nothing about it. But today, as he has done every other day this week, Alf Morris will place on the order paper his Disabled Persons and Carers (Short-Term Breaks) Bill.

This would provide respite for about 100,000 people — a significant minority who otherwise may get no relief from the never-ending, nerve-wearying care of their charges. It would oblige local authorities, when they assess the help needed to enable disabled people to live at home — such aids as wider doors, stair-lifts, adapted bathrooms — to write into the requirements an occasional break for the carer. "Carers are the most admired people in Britain," as Morris says, "but they are also among the most exploited."

The Bill has gone through the Lords ("almost by acclamation") steered by Lord Rix, chairman of Mencap. It is supported across all parties, its signatories including Sir David Steel, Dafydd Wigley, of Plaid Cymru, Margaret Ewing, of the SNP, James Molyneaux, the former Ulster Unionist leader, and the Tory Sir John Hannam.

It needs only a slight alteration in the existing Bill to make a huge difference to many hard-pressed people and it makes perfect sense. So why is it struggling to get through Parliament?

What Hansard (July 12) records is this: "Order for second reading read. Hon Members: Object." This is Hansard-speak for a single government whip objecting: in parliamentary practice that is all that is needed. "The Bill is being blocked," says Morris.

To meet the soft-spoken Mr Morris after seeing all those sharp young blades at the Labour conference is to be reminded of the quiet altruism and dogged persistence of the older Labour generation.

He is a veteran of the battle for the interests of the disabled, having won the 1969 private members' ballot and drafted the 1970 Chronically Sick and Disabled Persons Bill, which recognised, almost for the first time, obvious human needs. As we walk through the Commons he

> 'They are among the most exploited people in Britain'

points out a stair-lift to the Jubilee Room, part of the £750,000 newly installed access for wheelchair users.

When Mr Morris was born in 1928, his father was an invalid: he had lost a leg in the First World War and had been gassed. "I know how a whole family's life is affected if one member is disabled.

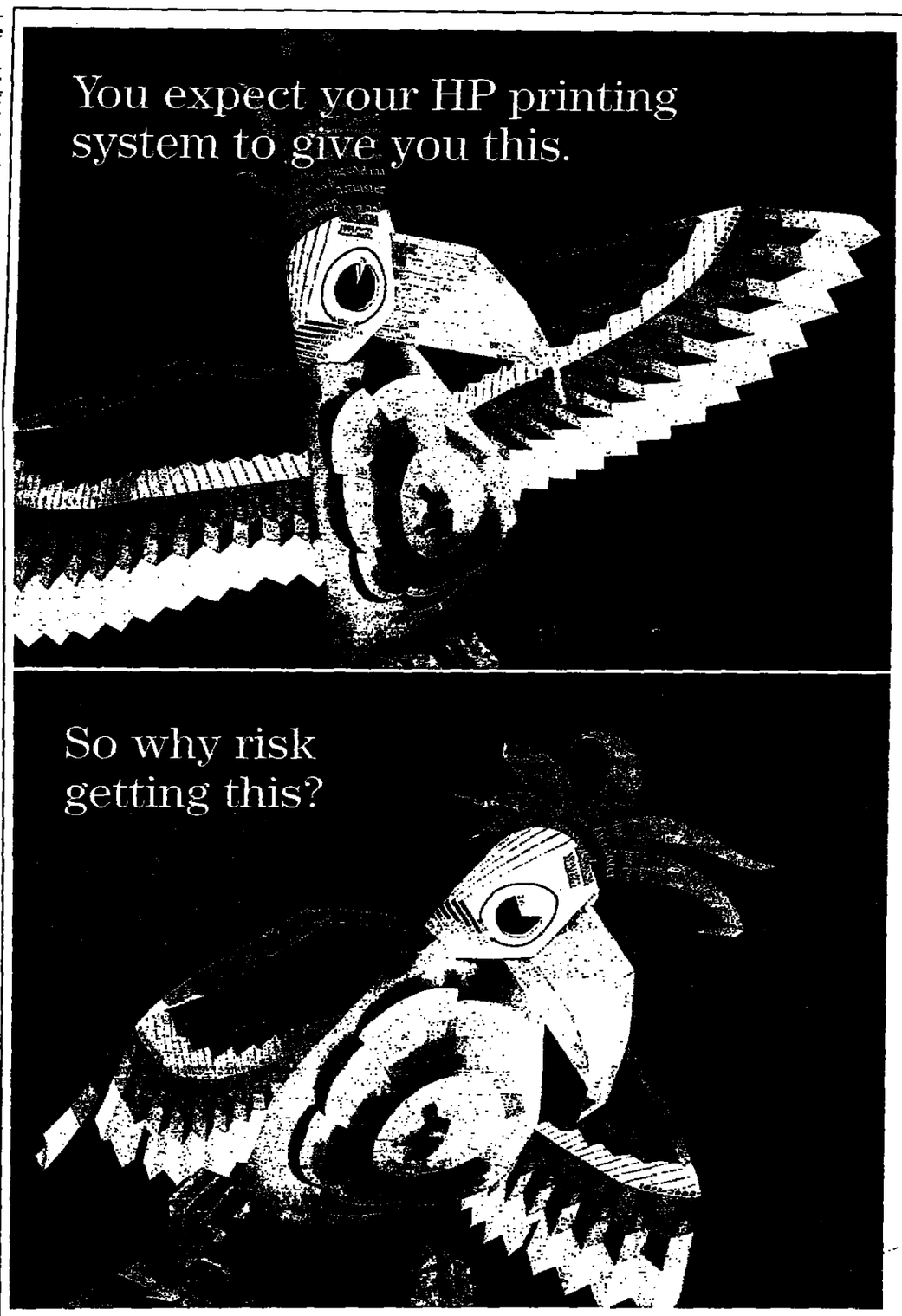
"I watched my father fade away. When I was seven he died. His injuries were war-related, but because he had lived on for several years after the war, my mother didn't qualify for a war widow's pension." Mrs Morris had five children to bring up; she wrote to her MP, Harry Thorneycroft. "Her letter was written on a scrappy bit of paper, but Harry Thorneycroft came to see her, took up her case and got her that pension. 'When you're old enough, you'll be giving out leaflets for Mr Thorneycroft,' she told me. And that's how I first became involved with politics. Two of her sons and her grand-daughter became MPs." (Alf Morris's brother was also a Labour MP; his niece Estelle Morris is member for Birmingham Yardley).

Carers' organisations estimate that carers provide the home care equivalent to the value of the cost of the entire NHS. For the Government it makes economic sense to encourage this. But it is most often a woman who sacrifices family life or job to keep a grown-up child or an elderly disabled parent out of institutional care.

"Supporting carers is a moral and social priority," Morris says. "Providing short breaks may be as important as a phone, and should be listed among the services. With 20/20 hindsight, when we drafted the 1970 Bill we might have provided for respite breaks when we made provision for recreation and day-care centres. The other week in Blackpool a man told us he and his wife went to the Lake District for 48 hours, their first holiday together for ten years. It makes no sense to the taxpayer to push people to the extreme of their endurance."

The only presumable objection to the short breaks Bill must be the imagined cost. "There is a preoccupation with the cost of everything — but we are talking pennies here. Institutional care costs pounds. And if carers break down under the pressure of caring, you end up with two people to care for."

Morris insists that if given the nod by ministers, this Bill could be through the Commons and into law in an hour of parliamentary time. "It is not a battle between left and right, it's between right and wrong. And between Government and Parliament. So it will be there, on the order paper every day, staring them in the face and stirring their consciences."



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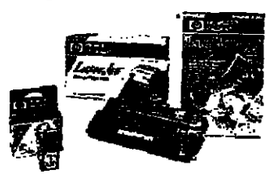
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Judge who lost his duel with vox populi

Public opinion forced ministers to pre-empt Lord Cullen's judicious report, says **Magnus Linklater**

There were surely times during the preparation of his report when Douglas Cullen must have longed to reach for his gavel, hammer on the bench and order "Silence in Court!"

Rarely can a public inquiry have been conducted against a background of such clamorously dissenting opinion. He has been subjected to intense pressure from parents and politicians. He has been under constant scrutiny from a rapacious media. His recommendations have been pre-empted by the very Government which commissioned him in the first place.

But through it all has come a report as meticulous in its dissection of the evidence as it is balanced in its conclusions. However it is used or misused, traduced or vilified, it is there on the record, as valuable in its assessment of gun laws, youth clubs or the security of our schools as his Piper Alpha report was on the safety of oil rigs at sea.

It is a measure of the man himself that he has appeared almost untouched by the conflict. I saw him last weekend at the Lyceum Theatre in Edinburgh, watching a rumbustious performance of *Cyrano de Bergerac*, relaxed and to all appearances at ease with himself. Lord Cullen is not a naturally gregarious man, but he is a witty companion and a great expert on the buildings of his native Edinburgh, about which he has written several books. There is always about him, however, a certain remoteness, a feeling that you would be wise not to presume too much on his friendship. That detachment, the natural quality of a good judge, is a useful ingredient in the debate now exploding around his report.

Whatever the political capital to be made out of an issue which should by rights have nothing to do with politics, however anguished the views of parents and teachers in Dunblane, Lord Cullen's findings will provide the essential sounding board for them all. When the new laws restricting the use and calibre of handguns are finally drawn up, it is he who will give them their framework. That, after all, is why he was appointed.

Throughout the report, he has looked at the implications of an outright ban on handguns. He found that there were real difficulties about it. "It is," as he says, "necessary to decide what risk is acceptable, bearing in mind that some risk is an inevitable feature of daily life. Against the risk to society has to be balanced the loss of freedom of the individual . . ."

He concludes, after painstaking examination of all the alternatives, that he does not consider "the banning of handguns for target shooting or the banning of shooting clubs would be justified". Anyone who now continues to argue for more draconian measures will have to deal with his arguments. The need to reach a workable rather than just a popular solution, and the balancing of freedom of action with the protection of children, were more important than simply responding to public opinion. That does not mean that there is a lack of natural sympathy towards those who had suffered. "He gave you great confidence in his impartiality," said one parent, "but equally you were aware that he was not immune to the sheer awfulness of what had happened."

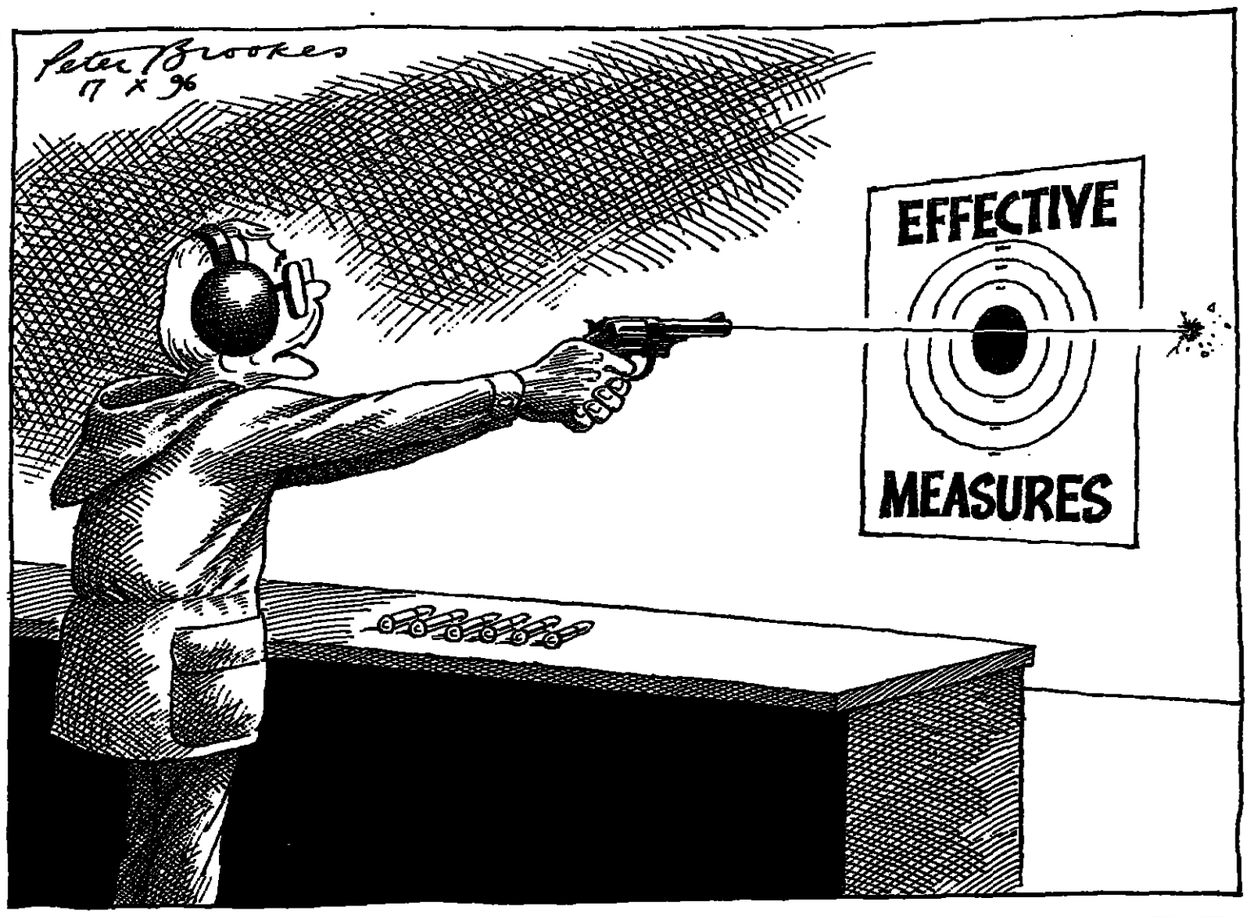
It became clear from an early stage that however sensible his conclusions, public opinion would not be content to wait for them. The very evidence that was presented to him about the proliferation of handguns and their capacity forced the pace. It spurred the parents into an increasingly high-profile campaign. Then, six weeks into the hearings, the Commons Home Affairs Committee divided down party lines and its Tory members indicated they would not be recommending a total ban on handguns. That helped to launch the hugely successful Snowdrop campaign, which set the emotional tone of the debate, summed up by the parents' articulate spokeswoman Ann Pearston: "If legislation falls short of a complete ban, it shows that we and our children are expendable so that 57,000 target shooters can retain their right to pursue a sport that uses weapons designed to kill."

Draconian measures must meet Cullen's objections

Like all successful slogans it was simplistic but effective. Thereafter, any politician's response was measured against it. A curb on the ownership of handguns was not enough; a "complete ban on handguns" became the operative statement. Tony Blair indicated that he favoured it. The Scottish Secretary, Michael Forsyth, defending his tiny majority in Stirling, made it clear that he, too, was for strong action. David Mellor claimed that guns were now "the most important issue for years".

None of this helped to clarify the issues that Lord Cullen was wrestling with. What it meant, however, was that the moderate position, and the one which Lord Cullen favours, was soon eclipsed. Instead of "Wait for Cullen", the slogan became "We will go further than Cullen." Many of the Dunblane parents and teachers have now reached the fundamentalist position, which urges a ban on the possession and ownership, not just of handguns but all guns, including shotguns and rifles. The present Government will not go that far. A Labour Government just might.

On the issue of handguns, and handguns alone, Lord Cullen has been overtaken by public opinion, and by a Government anxious not to be outplayed by the Opposition. But the groundwork that he has done has provided the essential foundation on which the new recommendations now rest. No politician worth his salt will be able to reach a conclusion without reference to his report. It is essential evidence and that is what a good judge is there to present to the jury of public opinion.



Europe's fascist spectre

Far-Right parties exploit Maastricht just as Hitler did the Versailles treaty

William Rees-Mogg

There are only too many fascists, neo-fascists and quasi-fascists at large in Europe nowadays. I have talked to Gianfranco Fini, the leader of the Italian National Alliance Party, and I think he is genuinely an ex-fascist, but his party undoubtedly attracts the fascist audience. Umberto Bossi, the leader of the Italian Northern League, has fascist attributes, and is a threat to the unity of the Italian state. Jean Marie Le Pen's support is rising in France. Now Jörg Haider's Freedom Party has won 27.6 per cent of the vote in Austria's European elections, and the German Chancellor, Dr Helmut Kohl, has expressed his "deep concern". He is right to be worried.

For the last 50 years it has been embarrassing for people to express even the most qualified admiration for fascism, so horrible were the crimes of European fascism in the 1930s and 1940s. Yet some of the attributes of fascism have always been popular. If one had asked an intelligent Nazi in 1935 to make the case for Hitler, he would have talked about the need for leadership, about the weakness and corruption of the democracies, about the importance of building a strong community.

He would have cited the need to support youth and the family, about the regime's practical success in reducing unemployment, about the need to defend the State against alien threats and to restore Germany to a leading European place, about the need to save Europe itself from Soviet Communism, about the survival of the fittest, about the idealism which called on all Germans to serve their race and their leader.

In fact, these policies led to the war, the Gestapo, the concentration camps and the Holocaust. But that does not mean that they had no appeal at the time, or that similar arguments have no appeal now. Some of the Nazi arguments were, indeed, true. Hitler's economic programme after 1933 was rather more successful than Franklin Roosevelt's New Deal in reducing unemployment. The average non-Jewish German was almost certainly better off in 1935 than he had been when Hitler came to power. Foreign nations did again perceive Germany as a great power and reacted accordingly. In 1936, after his first term as President, Franklin Roosevelt was overwhelmingly re-elected, with his Republican rival only carrying two states. If Hitler had faced re-election in the same year, he too would have won by a landslide.

There are elements of fascist excitement even in successful democratic politics. President John F. Kennedy exploited aspects of the fascist appeal, the cult of youth, nationalism, the glamour of the leader, competitive ruthlessness, the emphasis on military power and on the threat from other military nations.

Adolf Hitler was neo-Darwinist who believed in the survival of the fittest, but so were the Kennedy's, even though they were democrats and not racists. If Hitler had not been responsible for the Holocaust, he would probably be a hero to many people in Europe today, just as Napoleon was a hero in France 50 years after Waterloo. The Holocaust was unforgivable and unanswerable; in itself the idea of a ruthless nationalist dictatorship has attracted many nations at different periods of history.

It is only if we understand the attractions of fascism that we can judge the danger of its returning. The most striking totalitarian regimes have been Communist Russia and China, Nazi Germany, Fascist Italy and Spain and Imperial Japan. All but one — China — are now defunct, though the Japanese Emperor is still head of state. All came after the failure of a previous regime. In the three West European countries, the regime which failed had been democratic. Hitler himself was able to come to power by more or less constitutional means, but he had his chance because of the failure of the Weimar Republic.

When democracy cannot deliver what the people want, the idea of dictatorship becomes popular. In 1933 German democracy was weakened by the slump, by the social destruction of the inflation of the 1920s, by high unemployment, by a pervading sense of moral decline, by the existence of extremist parties. Communists as well as Nazis, and by the loss of self-confidence of the leading democratic politicians. Those conditions plainly do not exist in modern Germany. Unemployment is higher than it should be, but inflation is low, Germany is prosperous, there are no extremist parties in Parliament, and Chancellor Kohl is a figure of world authority. It is not in Germany that one would now fear a revival of European fascism: the defences of German democracy are strengthened by the memories of Nazism just as the mark is strengthened by the historic fear of inflation.

Democracy may be weaker in those European countries where fascism has already been able to establish an electoral position. Austria is a special case. The Austrians have done less to re-examine their 20th-century history than almost any other European nation. They seem to pity themselves as the first victims of Hitler, when many of them were enthusiastic junior partners in the Third Reich. Herr Haider is not another Hitler — many of his policies are very different — but he does draw on the support of sections of the Austrian electorate whose parents or grandparents were mostly enthusiastic Nazis. Hitler himself drew on this right-wing tradition, including its anti-Semitism, and formed his own ideology in pre-1914 Vienna.

More worrying is the state of democracy in the three great Latin nations: France, Spain and Italy. In France and Italy there are already significant parties with fascist connections. In all three countries there is high unemployment, an eighth of the working population in France and Italy, a quarter in Spain. All three countries have serious corruption, with Italy's the worst. All three have a public opinion disillusioned by the failures of elected politicians. In all three one meets the Europeanism of despair: that is not a lack of faith in a strong and healthy European future, but a fear that without Europe the nations would collapse.

The Maastricht project for a single currency is making all three deflate their economies to try to meet the convergence criteria. Yet none of the three will be able to meet the criteria in real terms, though France may meet them by creative accounting. If the euro emerges as a strong currency, which is what the Germans want, then this deflation will have to continue. If it emerges as a weak currency, which is rather more likely, then Germany will have exchanged the mark for a pseudo-lira.

Anti-Semitism was not only a part of Hitler's propaganda, but expressed a deep psychological anxiety shared by many Germans and by Hitler himself. Similar fears about immigrant groups exist in most modern West European countries, not excluding Britain. These fears are felt particularly strongly by the French, who are alarmed by the North Africans in their midst. In a recent by-election near Marseilles, Jean-Marie Le Pen's National Front and the Communists between them took 64 per cent of the vote, humiliating the Socialists and Gaullists.

One should not exaggerate the stage of democratic failure that has been reached so far: 27.6 per cent in Austria is far from a majority. All that can yet be said is that some of the pre-conditions of democratic failure exist in some of the European countries. But suppose that in the early years of the next century there is a systemic failure of the European economy, because of high unemployment, because the euro is too strong or too weak, or because of a Europe-wide failure to meet low cost Asian competition. Suppose that resentment about unemployment and immigration is turned against Europe, that the national democratic failures become a European failure. Then the lifeboat will become a death trap.

The pre-condition of fascism is the failure of democracy. A sign of democratic failure is the desire to transfer power away from democratic bodies to unaccountable bodies, from the nations to Europe. Adding the national failures together will not create a successful Europe, though that is what the European Union is now planning to do.

A Europe-wide systemic failure of democracy would open the way for neo-fascism in the national electorates. We do not need to fear fascism because it is weak and repulsive, but because many people find it strong and attractive. Like the Devil himself, fascism is strong, attractive but deadly.

A nation clobbered by bag and baggage

Derwent May on the dangers of the power accessory

I was hit by bags four times coming into the offices of *The Times* at Wapping the other morning — once on the neck, once on the shoulder and twice on the hip. Big bags are the new British phenomenon. A blow from Lady Thatcher's handbag was a fleabite compared with the danger one is now in on buses, trains and pavements.

It began, I think, with the hard-edged briefcase (or attaché case) — the wooden box, like a small drawer covered in scaly black material, that men started carrying about two or three years ago. The soft leather briefcase melted away before it.

Challenge begot challenge, and women's handbags started creeping up in size until they were really not handbags at all. The last time I saw one of those authentic specimens was when several women put them down behind their chairs at our dinner-table, and our dog came and snuffled through them, tossing £5 notes and contact lenses in all directions.

Now almost all women carry strapped and buckled bags that are getting on for kitbag size. You could not put them under your dining chair now — they would have to go under the sideboard. Some women carry two or three bags, and walk with both arms permanently crooked to hold them.

All kinds of other bags have followed in their wake — valises for men to take to the office, big dumpling-like cloth bags tied with a string and slung from the shoulder, other gigantic shoulder-bags with fiercely-metalled corners for either sex to swing.

But the most widespread newcomer of all is the fashionable backpack (once known as a rucksack) that has sprung up exactly like mushrooms on people's backs. It used to be "If you want to get ahead, get a hat", now it is "If you want to get ahead get a hump".

Children of two wear them, and every other age up to about 85. They are being manufactured in more and more varied designs. I had a near miss from the leg of one shaped like a teddy bear the other day.

I am not saying that people are less polite than they used to be. Most of them move their bodies delicately to avoid you, as courteous English people have always done. But they simply lack the instinct to allow for their excrescences. They swing round on the pavement to say something funny to their companion, and the backpack goes straight into a passer-by. They weave sensitively down the aisle of a bus, with their shoulder-bag striking every alternate person who is sitting down.

And what is in those bags? That is the mystery. The answer to what is in the hard briefcases is the easiest to give. Men travelling on the London Underground will sometimes open them on their knees for a moment, and you get a glimpse. They contain a copy of last night's *Evening Standard* and an apple, or a box of paper handkerchiefs and an apple. In brief, they contain nothing. Like all the other bags, they are power bags, carried purely for their own sake.

But that still leaves the question of what is in all the other bags, so visibly and tangibly packed. Not all the cosmetics and complementary pills in Boots could fill those women's bags. Are they stuffed with thermal vests, a year's copies of *Harper's & Queen*, a portable pregnancy test and a cardboard case of yoghurts? Even those could not produce a missile as heavy and lethal as some of the bags you see.

I have never owned a briefcase of any kind. From an early age I knew that if I got one, it would become as embodied a part of me as the nose and lip rings that you also see around you nowadays (though how harmlessly!) on the Tube.

I have never found that I really needed to carry anything to or from work with me, except from time to time when I wanted a book or two. To take several books does indeed pose a problem without a bag — they slip easily from under a tucked arm and damage their corners when they fall — and I acknowledge that I have had recourse at times to a plastic bag — something that I hate both seeing and carrying.

But I have a degree of sympathy for people who carry plastic bags, unattractive though they look. At least I know that they are carrying something for a genuine purpose — they could not possibly just be trying to make an impression. And if the contents could inflict an injury, at least the bag itself can do no harm.

It might be tempting to have a bag just as a means of defence, and indeed I have witnessed more than one resounding clash between bag carriers. But I do not let my thoughts go down that road. More often, though I am no lover of things Japanese, I simply long for the day — which like all things is bound to come — when the bonsai bag comes into fashion.

However, I must confess to the offence against my fellow pedestrians. On a rainy day, I cannot go a hundred yards down a street without hitting someone on the head with my umbrella.

Scotch mist

APOLOGIES have arrived from Sir Nicholas Scott, MP for Chelsea, after his fabulously intoxicated showing at last week's Tory conference. He was found completely smashed and flat on his face on a Bournemouth street after a big night with the staff of the Irish Embassy. A combination of pain killers and alcohol, pleaded "Scotch" Scott — although those who have seen him pack it away at



"It was OK, but Summer Holiday's story was stronger"

constituency parties were not so convinced.

Writing to his local association, Scotch says: "I wanted to write to you as a member of the General Purposes Committee to say how deeply sorry I am for the problems which the events of the last week have caused. I have, unwittingly, hurt a lot of people: but I hope you will not believe everything you may have read in the press."

Scotch needs to do some sucking up for he will face one of the least unimpressive Referendum Party candidates, Robin Birley, in the general election. Fissures are already appearing among K & C's conservatives who represent some of the Referenders' ripest targets.

"I cannot turn the clock back," Scotch ends his letter, "and I know I will long regret the incident."

Pricey prance

ALWAYS one for the grand gesture, Kerry Packer, media magnate and ageing polo player, has bought the rights to Diana, Princess of Wales's visit to Australia. He is said to have paid £1.5 million to a hospital charity for exclusive

THE TIMES DIARY

media coverage of her visit this month.

The development follows my story earlier this month that James Packer, his square-jawed son, has his heart set on a dance with the Princess when she visits. Packer senior's generous gesture should ensure that Jamie gets his waltz.

Artful dodge

MODESTY overcame Sean Connery at the first night in London of his tremendous production of Yasmina Reza's play *Art*, starring Albert Finney, Tom Courtenay and Ken Stott. He insisted that praise for its success was due not to himself but to his wife, Micheline. "She discovered it," he explained.

Micheline admitted to the discovery, after breaking the habit of a lifetime and visiting the theatre in Paris. "I was collared by a friend and dragged along," she said, "but I liked it so much that I made Sean see it."

Bigwig

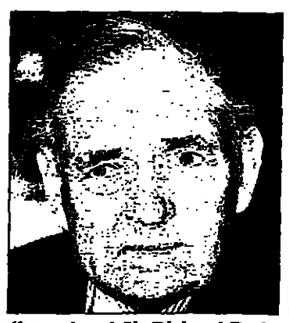
MORE shocking to the world of rock than news of Mick Jagger and Jerry Hall's marital difficulties is a vicious rumour doing the air-guitar circuit: that the lead singer of the Rolling Stones doesn't enjoy a full head of hair.

Whatever the case, wigs now feature large in the rock business — four out of five of the band Deep Purple are said to sport hairpieces — and tonsorial technology can ensure they remain fixed despite vigorous dancing. Jagger's office is astonished: "It's absolutely untrue," said a spokeswoman.



Micheline: a discovery





Breakaway pack of hounds: bloodhound and Sir Richard Body

Doggone

BLOODHOUNDS are the latest outlet for the rebellious instincts of Sir Richard Body, MP for Holland and Boston, one of the original and certainly the most courtly of the Tory Euro-sceptics. Body, for several years the Joint Master of the Windsor Forest Bloodhounds, has now set up his own, breakaway hunt: the Southern Shires Bloodhounds.

On Sunday, Body took himself across the Berkshire countryside as the prey. "We do clean boot hunting," he says. "No special scent involved." Any dog-owning Euro-sceptic yet to hitch up to the Referendum Party should get in touch.

● ***Bungee jumpers, white water rafters and thrill seekers everywhere might like a new job advertised by the BBC World Service and proving unpopular among staff already there: permanent representative in Kabul, Afghanistan, a town currently being flattened with the regularity of a wicket in high summer.***

P·H·S

هكذا من الأصل

CULLEN'S CRAFT

Deep thought and feeling for the victims of Dunblane

The tragedy of Dunblane touched the nation. The suffering of parents robbed of their children prompted a desire for action, to minimise the risk of such an atrocity ever happening again. It is right that Parliament should respond speedily with legislation to protect the public. New laws are the least the Dunblane parents are due. A wise response, however, will acknowledge emotion's claim without allowing it to overwhelm. It is important that consequent, legislation, conceived in justified anger, is considered with proper calm.

The possibility of any Act being introduced so soon after the killings is due in great measure to the skill, speed and thoroughness of Lord Cullen. His conduct of the inquiry into the tragic events of March 13 has secured the gratitude of all those affected and his report should also win him the thanks of legislators. Its recommendations will allow Parliament to introduce measures which should improve school safety, the operation of youth organisations and the licensing of firearms. Lord Cullen's proposals to train some and accredit all of those who work with young people are altogether welcome. The inquiry exposed the worrying ease with which a man like Thomas Hamilton could set up a boys' club and exercise unsupervised authority over the vulnerable young. Bureaucratic interference in civil associations is rarely welcome but this intervention in defence of children is absolutely necessary.

The other significant recommendations which should safeguard children are the proposals governing school security. It is reassuring that the Government is prepared to release money to allow improvements to be made. Lord Cullen's recommendations draw on the logic of his report into the explosion on the Piper Alpha oil rig. Investigating how safety procedures broke down then with such appalling loss of life, he concluded that rather than an outside body laying down specific recommendations it should be up to the operators of a platform to construct a "safety case" and argue that their independently generated plan would protect lives. By asking schools to prepare their own safety strategy and action plan Lord Cullen recognises that a single set of rules he might lay down cannot cover the wide variety of schools in the country. School safety should spring from hard thinking by teachers and the search for best practice rather than passive adoption of new regulations. New regulation is, however, precisely what is needed to cover the licensing of guns.

Lord Cullen concedes in his report that even if police suspicions had led to Thomas Hamilton's gun licence being revoked he would have won it back on appeal. The proposals to insist on two references for any licence, to monitor better the weapons use of gun owners, to allow chief police officers to revoke licenses and to make the appeal process tougher are all welcome. They should go a significant way to limiting the chances of lethal weapons being held in legal, but altogether unsuitable, hands.

But no licensing scheme, however tightly drawn, can prevent guns being misused. That is why Lord Cullen, the Government and the opposition parties are all right to argue, albeit to different degrees, for restrictions on the availability of handguns. Handguns, unlike shotguns or rifles, are easy to conceal and are designed to kill people not animals. Although thousands enjoy innocent sport with handguns, many who use them are not restrained by the traditional taboos which influence those who stalk and shoot game with rifle and shotgun. An ugly subculture has developed which celebrates the power that handguns are supposed to confer. It is absolutely right to ensure that individuals are denied the weapons which Thomas Hamilton used to such devastating effect. There should be no place for semi-automatic weapons except on the battlefield or in the policeman's holster.

Indeed, the case for banning all handguns, as made by Labour, the Liberal Democrats, the SNP and the former Home Office Minister, David Mellor, is extremely persuasive. The Home Secretary is right, however, to draw attention to the unhappy history of absolute prohibition. By restricting ownership of handguns to those of low calibre which have long been used in sport and insisting they be held under stringent security in clubs, Mr Howard may be able to allow genuine sportsmen an outlet and prevent the driving of law-abiding individuals outside the law. Mr Straw's support for a total ban on handguns has the merit of simplicity and overwhelming popular support. But before any absolute ban is introduced MPs should reflect on whether there is a last case for caution. The victims of Dunblane deserve hard thinking as well as deep feeling.

SIMPLE, SIGNORA

How Bonino can improve Europe's fisheries policy

This week, not for the first time, Britain and Spain clashed angrily over fish. The collision between Tony Baldry, the Fisheries Minister, and Loyola de Palacio, his hectoring Spanish counterpart (whose tackle derives more from rugby than from fishing), was messy proof of the gulf that still separates this country from other member states of the European Union on fundamental issues.

Radical reform of the common fisheries policy has long been needed. British fishermen have long needed more defence from the British government. Mr Baldry was correct to stand his ground this week on the vexed question of Spanish "quota-hoppers", even if it earned him the Iberian ire of Senor de Palacio. The conservation of Europe's depleted fish stocks cannot be now be properly accomplished without fundamental, and rapid, reform.

Emma Bonino, the EU's Fisheries Commissioner, is right to seek a cut in fishing fleets and the total allowable catch. Far too much fish is caught by far too many fishermen with far too few controls. Yet for Britain to accept a reduction in its fishing fleet, a way must be found to take account of the large, *de facto* "reduction" which has occurred already: since foreign fishermen control 20 per cent of Britain's off-shore fleet tonnage, this country has operated for the last decade at only 80 per cent of its legitimate capacity. New fleet cuts would deplete that percentage still further.

There are two ways forward. Either bona fide British fishermen should be exempted from the proposed cuts, on the argument that these are already effectively in place. Or the Commission sjould impose the same cuts on the British fleet as on everyone else's, but do away with the "quota-hoppers". The second option is the better. The first option would not protect fish stocks, and would leave the question of "quota-hoppers" unanswered. The second option would tackle both fronts: it would ensure that fewer fish are caught by fewer fishermen, as well as ensuring that British fishermen enjoy the fruits of Britain's deep-sea resources. It would also serve as a template for the much needed, top-to-bottom overhaul of the common fisheries policy.

Flags of fishing convenience — the very problem which the 1988 Merchant Shipping Act sought to address — are at the core of Europe's fishing crisis. The time has come for nationality and residence requirements for vessel owners, operators and employees. Fishing companies wishing to register in Britain must prove that their vessels are at least 75 per cent British-owned. This departure from free-market principles can be justified in terms of the alarmingly depleted, potentially non-renewable nature of the resource. This is a genuine emergency.

Britain cannot sit back and allow plunder to continue. It must fight against the European fisheries policy in the European way, with vigour, aggression, and the strongest resolve. The EU spends £400 million to subsidise Europe's enormous fishing fleet, a third of which is Spanish (excluding "quota-hoppers"). If Britain's fleet is cut, so must the Spanish subsidy be. It is as simple as that, Signora Bonino.

BITTER HERITAGE

A few thoughts, minister, on preserving the great British pub

The Campaign for Real Ale says that the traditional British pub needs conservation just as much as stately homes and cathedrals. Never slow to jump on a popular beerwagon, Mrs Bottomley's Department of National Heritage may be preparing an inventory of historic public houses that preserve this unique British tradition. A first draft of the report has fortuitously found its way to *The Times*:

The Slughorn and Stradivarius (a vile inn) epitomises the cosy hospitality of the London pub, praised by writers from Dr Johnson to Charles Dickens. The regulars (many music students) crouch over the bar so densely that the irregular visitor has to semaphore his order across a wall three backs deep. Guest ales are a recent tradition, and are so flat that they serve them on a platter.

The Rover's in Manchester represents the mythical Never-Never-Tavern of Northern soap opera dreams. Mine Hosts, Vera and Jack Duckworth, are legendary, and as ageless as make-up and their agents can keep them. The snug may have gone. But Betty's hotpot is still top of the menu in this age of the microwave, more popular even than such traditional dishes as Ploughman's with Kiwi fruit and chicken satay. The stars discuss their emotional problems while the extras mouth rhubarb. The view of Coronation Street cannot be missed.

Macbeth's Head at Stratford-upon-Avon combines the lure of the heritage trail with the attractions of Olde Englishe Taverne Fayre Sportes. Pub games draw the coachloads. But the Bard's beer and skittles and Shakespeare's shove ha'penny have been replaced by Petruchio's pool tables. The spread of this traditional new game has added to the tight intimacy and back-chat that make the British pub inimitable.

The Wearing of the Green is one of the new tradition of cod Irish pubs. The bar staff are given a course in stage Irish accents, and there are two barmaids on duty, one to serve drinks and the other to waffle ethnically and listen to blarney. The push-button till makes surprising profits, but they could sell even more stout if they filled the glasses properly. There are regular opportunities to contribute to traditional Irish charities.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Handgun ban and risks to the public

From Mr Richard Warden

Sir, I suggest those who oppose the storage of most of the remaining handguns in clubs (reports, October 15, 16) have produced an argument in favour of the total prohibition of these weapons.

Dunblane and Hungerford have created an overwhelming view that, at minimum, private ownership should be banned because the risks to the public are unacceptable. If gun clubs argue that collective storage is not possible because it will create arsenals vulnerable to attack, then they are creating a position that has only one outcome: that any means of storing handguns in the UK carries unacceptable risks. The only course of action, then, is a complete ban on these weapons.

Proposals to tighten the procedures for issuing firearms certificates are not, on their own, going to satisfy people. Already the BMA has rejected the proposal for medical references (report, August 13) on the grounds that such a procedure would be unreliable.

So far there has been a disappointing response from handgun owners: negative responses to possible solutions, discreditable statements made about one of the Dunblane parents, and the subsequent loss of support from Sebastian Coe, MP (report, September 12), and calls for compensation for loss of weapons if there is a ban (with no thought of compensation for the victims).

If the attitude of the gun lobby is as self-interested as it appears to me, then a total ban is the only answer.

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD WARDEN,
2 Waterloo Way, Bredon,
Tewkesbury, Gloucestershire.
October 16.

From Mr Mark Marsh

Sir, A shotgun in a confined space can be as deadly as a handgun. Why then have the Government and Labour Party moved towards a total ban of handguns but not shotguns? The difference is that a pressure group has not spent the last seven months calling for the banning of shotguns. The Snowdrop campaign's frequently aired and emotionally charged argument does not stand up to scrutiny.

Had Thomas Hamilton walked into Dunblane Primary School with a shotgun, easily concealed in sawn-off form, he could have caused as much death and misery as he did with a handgun. Despite this Snowdrop have set about convincing politicians and members of the public that all handgun owners are potential mass murderers.

This apparent decision has, I'm convinced, more to do with vote-winning than trying to prevent another tragedy.

Yours faithfully,
MARK MARSH,
5 Columbus Square,
Manor Road, Erith, Kent.

From Mr Noel Falconer

Sir, As well as limiting handguns I am glad to see the Government is to restrict certain ammunition.

Any bullet can strike a vital part of the human body: but strong, sharp-pointed target rounds otherwise tend to enter and leave cleanly, inflicting less than lethal wounds.

Anti-personnel bullets — the "dum-dums" banned in war — expand or disintegrate on impact, aggravating the direct damage and transferring their entire energy to the victim, to kill by hydrostatic shock. Such a .22 is fully as deadly as a conventional .38, yet is commercially available, and not to police services alone.

Simple banning might challenge the arms manufacturers to apply their formidable expertise in circumventing legislation. Rather, we need to authorise closely specified target ammunition, and prohibit all else.

Yours sincerely,
NOEL FALCONER,
223 Bramhall Moor Lane,
Hazel Grove, Stockport SK7 4JL.

From Mr David I. Jones

Sir, In the understandable concern over the possession and use of handguns there is a danger of overlooking the other ingredient that made Thomas Hamilton lethal: his obsessive and unhealthy interest in young boys which for many years went unchecked and which the police were apparently unable to address because he had not been convicted of an offence.

The crime Bill, to be put before Parliament shortly, is likely to lead to the introduction of a register of convicted paedophiles (letter, October 15) and to make it an offence for them to seek work which involves access to children. Neither of these measures, though desirable, would have been effective to curtail Hamilton's activities.

Parliament should therefore give consideration to a system of registration of clubs and other voluntary organisations in which adults have direct dealings with children. It should be a criminal offence for adults to organise youth clubs without obtaining such registration.

This would give parents the reassurance of knowing that their children were in safe hands and the police the means to deal with those, such as Hamilton, who cloak their obsessions under the guise of an interest in the welfare of young people.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID I. JONES,
The Coach House, Pabo,
Llandudno Junction, Conwy.

Publisher's verdict on Gerry Adams

From Mr Steve MacDonogh

Sir, On October 7 both your leading article and a report by Nicholas Watt expressed great hostility to the publication of *Before the Dawn* by Gerry Adams (letter, October 12).

I have been Mr Adams's editor and publisher since 1982. In none of his seven books published to date is there any recommendation of violence, nor is there any attempt to portray violence as exciting, admirable or heroic — unlike hundreds of books about the SAS, the Paras and other military organisations. Indeed, the principal thrust of Mr Adams's contribution to republican politics has been to argue for political rather than military approaches to resolving the conflict in Ireland and between Britain and Ireland.

Before the Dawn conveys in graphic detail the behaviour and activities of those whom you support so enthusiastically — successive British governments which have used the violence of combat troops in an allegedly policing role. It is therefore not surprising that you seek to denigrate the book, its publishers and author.

Irish and British commentators can argue the toss till kingdom come, weighing civilian deaths in IRA bombings against civilians gunned down by Paras. People can read Mr Adams's account and set it against the perspective offered by publications such as your own.

But in the end what matters most for all the people of both our islands is how we arrange our political relationships in the future to remove political violence, to rid ourselves of the 30,000 armed personnel in the pay of the British Government, and to rid ourselves of the irregular forces of the IRA, the UDA, the INLA and the UVF.

I have absolutely no apology to make for publishing the writings of Gerry Adams. On the contrary, I believe that they can contribute to understanding, just as censorship worked to frustrate understanding. I have come to know Gerry Adams quite well over the years and I know with certainty that his determination now is, as it has been for some years, to help to bring about a peaceful resolution of the conflict.

Yours etc,
STEVE MacDONOGH
(Editorial Director),
Brandon Book Publishers,
Dingle, Co Kerry.
October 14.

Censorship on the Elizabethan stage

From Professor Patrick Collinson

Sir, You report (October 11) the discovery of a Privy Council letter of 1589, initiating state censorship of the Elizabethan theatre.

Your readers may like to know what this was about: not the general *Zeitgeist*, as proposed by David Starkey of the LSE, nor Marlowe's *Tamburlaine*, as suggested by Dr Beal of Sotheby's, but a very particular and peculiar set of circumstances.

In 1588-89 the bishops of the Church of England were lampooned by the pseudonymous Martin Marprelate in a series of brilliant and seditious tracts. It was the bright idea of a clergyman called Richard Bancroft to employ the literary hacks of the day to respond in the same coin, not only in print but in jigs and, as it were, little pantomimes, in which Martin Marprelate was "lanced and wormed" in the public theatres.

These were the "certen matters of divinitie ... unfit to be suffred" of which the Council complained, and which Francis Bacon deplored in a veiled attack on Bancroft. However, Bancroft's career was not damaged, and in 1604 he became Archbishop of Canterbury.

Yours etc,
PAT COLLINSON,
Trinity College, Cambridge.
October 12.

Assisted places

From the National Director of the Independent Schools Information Service

Sir, Your readers should not be misled by the Shadow Education Secretary's claim that phasing out the assisted places scheme by a Labour government would "ensure 500,000 infants are in classes of 30 or under" (report, October 11).

In fact, the savings from phasing out the scheme would provide only one extra teacher between every eight state schools for five to seven-year-olds. Even that assumes the State would bear no extra cost in absorbing pupils who would have held assisted places in independent schools.

For this paltry gain a Labour government would scrap a scheme which, according to a recent MORI poll (report, September 28), is supported by 63 per cent of all voters and 55 per cent of Labour voters; only 21 per cent of the former and 27 per cent of the latter oppose it. Labour would limit parental choice, make independent schools more exclusive and deny educational opportunities to children of the less well-off.

We know assisted places benefit those for whom they are intended: the average annual income of parents in the scheme is £10,600. And we know they are a good investment: research this year indicates that assisted place pupils in independent schools do better by up to three A-level grades than their contemporaries of similar abilities in other schools.

Many people would support reducing class sizes as a contribution towards raising educational standards. But ending a scheme which benefits low income families whose children achieve academic excellence is not the way to do it.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID WOODHEAD,
National Director,
Independent Schools Information Service,
56 Buckingham Gate, SW1.
October 11.

'Easier' A levels

From the Headmaster of Ampleforth College

Sir, Good examination results are important for everyone now, but Mr Jonathan Carey is surely right in suggesting that evidence of achievement in later life would be a valuable insight (letter, October 10).

It would be difficult and also unfortunate to gather the facts in narrow financial terms; we are as proud of those who are teaching or working for the succour of the weak as of our scholars, industrialists and financiers.

For a Christian, achievement is not to be measured simply in terms of social status or financial success. However, anecdotal evidence among Old Amplefordians does suggest that some now prominent in business or professional life were distinctly not among the highest academic achievers, and it may be that they gained something else here which allowed them to grow in the confidence and wisdom which they have since successfully applied in their work.

An Abbot of Ampleforth was once asked what happened in later life to the denizens of the bottom form, then ungraciously called the Lower Remove. The Abbot replied that they generally employed the scholars.

Yours etc,
LEO CHAMBERLAIN,
Headmaster,
Ampleforth College, York.
October 12.

Lords reform

From the Earl of Sandwich

Sir, Many will sympathise with Lord Cranborne's view ("Don't unbalance our unwritten constitution", October 11) that the House of Lords needs reform. But he is still unconvinced that it can be done effectively. The removal of the hereditary vote — whether or not it is spread over a generation — requires some alternative system of election or nomination, or the pack of cards will fall down. The question is whether the public demands a solution, or is reform merely a gimmick in the Labour manifesto?

My view is that some action needs to be taken before, not after, the next election. There must at least be new attendance rules because many peers stay away and the backwoodsmen have lost the Government all credibility. The Lords needs to have more legitimacy and public confidence, but not "at the expense of the House of Commons", whose authority is bound to be undermined by both Labour and Liberal proposals for an elected second chamber.

It is an issue which deserves more urgent action from Parliament itself, including the hereditary peers. I believe there should be an all-party group in both houses working on the alternatives already put forward in various reports. One solution could be through extending the number of independent peers. Perhaps the bishops and members of the Armed Forces could be joined by nominees from the other professions, "elected" through an all-party group.

Yours sincerely,
SANDWICH,
Mapperton House,
Beaminster, Dorset.
October 12.

Press complaints

From Mr James Buxton

Sir, Lord Wakeham's statement that "nobody would benefit from statutory controls [of press behaviour]" [letter, October 10; see also letters, October 14] ignores two points. First, that such controls would reduce the unacceptably high number of complaints to which he refers; and, secondly, that they have already been recommended by the independent Calcutt committee.

He may also care to reflect on the fact that his party introduced legislation to curb the power of the trade unions in the early 1980s. Despite the grave misgivings of politicians and others as to whether such legislation was appropriate, it has operated very effectively to curb that abuse of power.

Yours faithfully,
J. A. F. BUXTON,
Galhampton Manor,
Yeovil, Somerset.
October 10.

Letters to the Editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — 0171-782 5046.

Lithuanian economy

From the Ambassador of the Republic of Lithuania

Sir, In her article on the current Baltic Arts '96 festival in London (Arts, October 8) Hilary Finch states that "all the [Lithuanian] banks have collapsed". In fact 11 Lithuanian national banks are operating at full capacity.

Ms Finch also refers to Lithuania as "the poorest of the three Baltic states" yet, according to Eurostat calculations, in 1994 the GDP per capita in Lithuania was the highest in the Baltic states at US $3,771, and growth has been sustained in 1995 with a 3 per cent increase. Also, according to the Baltic News Service, it is not Lithuania who leads in the hard crime rate among the three Baltic states.

Finally, it is no secret that few artists around the world fully earn their living from their talents and many are forced to supplement their incomes by seeking outside employment, be it driving taxis or waiting at tables. Lithuania is no exception to this sad fact.

Yours sincerely,
JUSTAS PALECKIS,
Embassy of the Republic of Lithuania,
84 Gloucester Place, W1.
October 10.

A matter of dates

From Mr Andrew Neil

Sir, I was pleased to learn from your interestingly-timed interview with Pamella Bordes (October 15) that she has now found respectable employment. You wrongly report, however, that I dated her in the summer of 1989. In fact it was the summer of 1988.

The scandal surrounding her broke in the *News of the World* in February, 1989, almost six months after I had broken up with her. It follows that your caption under a picture of us together, which you say shows us "during the Commons scandal", is also wrong. By the time the story broke we had not met for several months — nor have we since.

I was also intrigued by the headline on your interview: "How I learnt to survive after the Andrew Neil affair". I'm grateful for the publicity but it is not her brief affair with me that she has had to overcome — which was a normal, if somewhat tempestuous, single man dates single girl arrangement — but the subsequent revelation that, unknown to me, she was a prostitute.

You will find all these matters accurately documented in my forthcoming book.

Yours sincerely,
ANDREW F. NEIL,
Hong Kong Parkview,
Reservoir Road, Hong Kong.
October 16.

Testing times

From Mrs A. W. Jones

Sir, A postscript to Dr Farrer's letter (October 10): on Saturday, July 12, 1930, Bradman added 25 runs before being caught Duckworth, bowled Tate, for 334 and my sister and I saw it all happen — we were quite small but have never forgotten it.

How many of the other spectators on that day are still watching cricket (terrestrially)?

Yours faithfully,
BARBARA JONES,
11 Guildford Avenue,
Walton, Chesterfield, Derbyshire.
October 10.

Dim view

From Mr Alun Morgan

Sir, I am surprised that Mr Cuthbertson (letter, October 10) finds dim bedside lighting in hotels a recent phenomenon.

For many years I have considered a 100 watt bulb, together with a screwdriver, tin-opener, bottle-opener and corkscrew, to be an essential part of any hotel survival kit.

Yours sincerely,
ALUN MORGAN,
Nyth Aderyn,
North Cliffe,
Tenby, Pembrokeshire.
October 10.

Face-saving

From Major John FitzGerald

Sir, Mr Wake-Walker [letter, October 12; see also letter, October 15] is probably not old enough to remember those heady far-off days when one's face flannel (very much in the singular and clearly marked with a name tape) was almost a permanent document throughout one's early life.

He may not, therefore, be aware that prep school matrons used to round up every little boy's flannel about halfway through the term when they were beginning to pong and plunge them in a bucket of household ammonia for a few hours before rinsing and returning them to their owner's washroom cubby-hole in time for the evening wash.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN FitzGERALD,
68 Heworth Village, York.
October 12.

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
October 16: The President of the Republic of Moldova and Mrs Snegur visited The Queen.

His Excellency Señor Fernando Andrade Díaz-Durán was received in audience by Her Majesty and presented the Letters of Recall of his predecessor and his own Letters of Credence as Ambassador from the Republic of Guatemala to the Court of St James's.

Señor de Andrade was also received by The Queen.

Sir John Coles (Permanent Under-Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs) was present.

Mrs Christian Adams was received by Her Majesty.

Mr Justice Sumner was received by The Queen upon his appointment as a Justice of the High Court when Her Majesty conferred upon him the honour of Knighthood and invested him with the Insignia of a Knight Bachelor.

His Excellency Mr Leif Blomqvist and Mrs Blomqvist were received in farewell audience by The Queen and took leave upon His Excellency relinquishing his appointment as Ambassador from the Republic of Finland to the Court of St James's.

The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh were entertained at Dinner this evening by the Ambassador from the United States of America (His Excellency Admiral William Crowe, Jr) and Mrs Crowe at Winfield House, Regent's Park, London NW1.

His Royal Highness, Admiral of the Fleet, this morning attended a briefing for Admirals of the Fleet at the Ministry of Defence and afterwards attended a Luncheon at Admiralty Arch, The Mall, London SW1.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
October 16: The Princess Royal, Patron, the Butler Trust, this morning visited HM Prison Coldingley, Bisley, Woking, and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Surrey (Mr Richard Thornton).

Her Royal Highness, Patron, the Home Farm Trust, this afternoon opened the new Kingston upon Thames Day Services Centre, Springfield Place, New Malden, Surrey.

The Princess Royal, President, Royal Yachting Association, later attended the Commodores Reception and Annual General Meeting at the Four Seasons Hotel, Hamilton Place, London W1.

Her Royal Highness, Commandant in Chief, St John Ambulance and Nursing Cadets, this evening attended a Reception for the Grand Prior's Cadets at St John's Gate, Clerkenwell, London EC1.

KENSINGTON PALACE
October 16: The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, Colonel-in-Chief Queen Alexandra's Royal Army Nursing Corps, was present this evening at a Reception given by the Corps at the Royal Hospital, Chelsea.

KENSINGTON PALACE
October 16: Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester was represented by Dame Jean Maxwell-Scott at a Service of Thanksgiving for the Life of Brigadier Robert Riddle which was held at the Church of the Sacred Heart Penicuik, Midlothian, this morning.

The Duchess of Gloucester presented The Queen Mother's Birthday Awards for environmental improvement, for the Tidy Britain Group at a luncheon at the Park Lane Hotel, London W1.

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE
RICHMOND PARK
October 16: Princess Alexandra, Patron, this afternoon visited the House of St Barnabas in Soho, 1 Greek Street, London W1, to mark the 150th Anniversary of its foundation.

Her Royal Highness, Patron of the Florence Nightingale Museum Trust, this evening attended a Reception and Concert at the Mansion House, London EC4.

Birthdays today

Mr Colin Bailey, Chief Constable, Nottinghamshire, 53; Mr Harry Carpenter, sports commentator, 71; Sir Sydney Chapman, MP, 61; Mr Jonathan Charkham, former Adviser to the Governor of the Bank of England, 66; Dr Alexander Cooke, physician, 97; the Earl of Dalhousie, KT, 82; Mr Shaun Edwards, rugby league player, 30; Lady (William) Fraser, chairman, Christian Aid, 64; Mr Alan Garner, author, 62; Sir Ralph Gibson, former Lord Justice of Appeal, 74; Sir Christopher Harding, chairman, Legal and General, 57; Mrs Ann Jones, tennis player, 58; Miss Margot Kidder, actress, 48; Lord Kilbracken, 76; Mr Stephen Kovacevich, pianist, 56; Mr Michael Lord, MP, 58; Sir Cameron Mackintosh, musical producer, 50; Mr Arthur Miller, playwright, 81; Mr A.W. Rudge, chairman, Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council, 59; Mr Victor Serebriakoff, honorary president, Mensa International, 84; Mr B.D. Taylor, former chief executive, Glaxo Holdings, 61.

Service dinners

RN Reserve Officers' Dining Club
Vice-Admiral Sir James Weatherall, Marshal of the Diplomatic Corps, proposed the toast to *The Immortal Memory* at a Trafalgar ladies' night dinner held last night on board *HQS Wellington*. Captain F. Ashe Lincoln presided.

The Light Infantry
Major-General Michael Regan presided at the annual dinner of the Light Infantry Club held last night at the Cavalry and Guards Club.

Service reunion

Clover Club
Members of the Clover Club (8th Indian Division) and their ladies attended the annual reunion held yesterday at HM Tower of London. Mr Philip Brooks presided. Mr Tim Dodwell, president, was among those present.

Luncheons

The Queen Mother's Birthday Awards
The Duchess of Gloucester presented The Queen Mother's Birthday Trophy to the Bank of Scotland at The Queen Mother's Birthday Awards Luncheon held yesterday at the Park Lane Hotel. Sir Antony Acland, Chairman of the Tidy Britain Group, was the host. Premier Awards were presented to:
Company: OCS Group Limited.
Statutory Authorities: Port of London Authority.
Local Authorities: Middlesbrough Borough Council.
Media: Agenda TV.
Enterprise: Tidy North.
Voluntary Organisations: the Moseley Society.
Youth Group: Pride in Perth Youth.
School: Ashley School, Widnes.
Individual: Miss Anthea Turner.

Thirty eight National Commendation Awards were also presented.

Prime Minister
The Prime Minister was the host yesterday at a luncheon held at 10 Downing Street in honour of the President of Chile. Among those present were:
Señor José Miguel Insulza, Señor Alvaro Garcia, the Ambassador of Chile, Señor Francisco Bartolucci, Señor Tomás Jocelyn-Holt, Mr Malcolm Rifkind, QC, MP, Mr Anthony Nelson, MP, Mr Eddie George, Mr Frank Wheeler and Mr Edward Oakden.

Carmen's Company
The Lord Mayor was a speaker at a luncheon of the Carmen's Company held yesterday at Painters' Hall after a court meeting when Mr J.M.B. Gorch was installed Master of the Carmen's Company. Mr J.E. Ratcliff was installed Senior Warden, and Mr B.J. Hooper as Junior Warden. The Master, Mr C.W. Lloyd and Mr J.G. Davis also spoke at the luncheon.

Eton luncheon

Lyttelton's
The Lyttelton Club held a luncheon yesterday in Election Chamber, Eton. The Earl of Malmesbury, the Right Rev S.W. Phipps, Mr J.R. Pope, Mr I.C. Faulconer, Mr A.I. Geikie Cobb and Mr A.J.W. Lewis were among those present.

Dinners

Social Security and Child Support Commissioners
The Lord Chancellor and Lady Mackay of Clashfern were the guests of honour at the annual dinner of the Social Security and Child Support Commissioners held last night at Lincolns Inn. Judge Kenneth Machin, QC, Chief Commissioner, presided.

HM Government
Mr Malcolm Rifkind, QC, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, was the host at a dinner given by Her Majesty's Government last night at 1 Carlton Gardens in honour of Señor Abel Matutes Juan, Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs.

Parish Clerks' Company
The Rev Graham Blacktop, Master of the Parish Clerks' Company, assisted by the Wardens, Mr O.W.H. Clark and Mr J.D. Hebblethwaite, presided at a court dinner held last night at Tallow Chandlers' Hall after attending evensong at St James Garlickhithe when the Rev John Paul officiated. Mr W.H. Dove, Parish Clerk of St Botolph without Aldgate, and Mr Philip Willoughby, Chief Commoner, also spoke at the dinner.

The Master of the Tallow Chandlers' Company, Mr Deputy Richard Saunders and Mr R.J. Pincham were among the guests.

Foundation for Science and Technology
Lord Butterworth, chairman of the Council of the Foundation for Science and Technology, presided at a lecture and dinner discussion held last night at the Royal Society. Professor B.J. Hoskins, Mr Vic Cocker and Mr Christopher J.A. Binnie were the speakers.

ADRIAN BROOKS



The Princess Royal handles a young peregrine falcon reared by prisoners during a visit to Coldingley Prison, Surrey, yesterday. The birds are bred for sale or release into the wild by inmates as part of a small business project

Today's royal engagements

The Queen will hold an investiture at Buckingham Palace at 11.00; and will re-open the Raphael Galleries at the Victoria and Albert Museum at 6.30.

The Duke of Edinburgh, as President and Honorary Life Fellow of the Royal Society for the Encouragement of Arts, Manufactures and Commerce, will present the 1996 Benjamin Franklin medal at St James's Palace at noon; and, as Life Member and Gold Card Holder of the Variety Club of Great Britain, will attend a celebration dinner at the Banqueting House, Whitehall, at 7.00.

The Princess Royal, as Chancellor of London University, will open the new pharmacy development at King's College School of Medicine and Dentistry, Bessemer Road, SE5, at 11.00; will open the artificial pitch, London University Sports Ground, Motspur Park, New Malden, at 2.00; and will attend a dinner at Admiralty House at 8.10 to mark the anniversary of the Battle of Trafalgar.

Princess Margaret, as Colonel-in-Chief of Queen Alexandra's Royal Army Nursing Corps, will visit the Royal Hospital, Haslar, Gosport, Hampshire, at 12.30.

The Duchess of Gloucester, Patron, Northamptonshire Association for the Blind, will attend a gala evening at the Derngate Theatre, Northampton, at 7.00.

Memorial service

Major Sir Richard Rasch
A service of thanksgiving for the life of Major Sir Richard Rasch, a Member of HM Body Guard, Honourable Corps of Gentlemen-at-Arms, 1968-88, was held yesterday in the Guards Chapel, Wellington Barracks. The Rev Leslie Bryan officiated, assisted by Canon John Reynolds.

Sir Simon Rasch, son, and Brigadier A.G. Heywood, read the lessons. Lord Carrington, KG, CH, gave an address. Among others present were:

Fiona Lady Rasch (widow), Lady Rasch (daughter-in-law), Mr and Mrs Timothy Rose Price (son-in-law and daughter), Major David Rasch (brother), Mrs Sheila King (sister-in-law), Mr and Mrs Timothy Forbes and Mr and Mrs Arthur Hickie (stepsons-in-law and stepdaughters), Mr Dominic Rose Price, Mr Patrick Rose Price, Katherine Rose Price, Mr Charles Forbes and Miss Rose Hickie (stepgrandchildren), Mr Guy Rasch, Miss Jane Rasch, Mr and Mrs Robert Jackson, Mr and Mrs Matthew King, Signora Giulia Sersale.

The Marchioness of Cholmondeley, Major-General Lord Michael Fitzalan Howard, Ann Countess of Yarborough, Major-General Earl and Countess Cathcart, the Dowager Viscountess De L'Isle, Lord Aberdare, Lord Dunboyne, Lord Glendyne, Lord Suffield, Baroness Sharples, Lord and Lady Lloyd George of Dwyfor, Lady Ashcombe, Lord Rawlinson of Ewell, QC, Lord and Lady Farnham, Lord and Lady Monteagle of Brandon, Lord and Lady Terrington.

Lady Caroline d'Erlanger, Lady Vanessa Brown, Lady Sophia Kinmont, Lady Anne Seymour, the Hon Christopher Lyttelton, the Hon Rupert and Mrs Carington, the Hon Virginia Carington, the Hon Mrs van der Woude, the Hon Sir Clive Bossom (representing the Master of the Grocers' Company), the Hon Mrs Vivian Baring, the Hon Anthony and Mrs Edmondson, the Hon Mrs Healing, the Hon Mrs Rose Price, the Hon Lady de Zulueta, the Hon Mrs Julian Berry, Sir Philip and Lady Dumcombe, Major Sir Charles Wiggin, Lieutenant-Commander Sir Michael and Lady Bunbury, Major Sir Fergus and the Hon Lady Matheson of Matheson, Sir Henry and Lady Warner, Anne Lady Scott, Sir Alastair and Lady Coats, Sir Antony Bonham, Sarah Lady Wiggin, Sir Joshua Rowley, Sir Anthony and Lady Weldon, Lady Sykes, Sir Guy and Lady Millard, Sir David and Lady Holden, Lady Legge Bourke, Sir Carron and Lady Greig, Lieutenant-Colonel Sir John Johnston.

Lady Baring, Lady Delacombe, General Sir David and Lady Fraser, Sir Antony Murray, Colonel Sir Piers Bengough, Major-General Sir Digby Raeburn, Major-General Sir Robert Corbett, Colonel T F C and Lady Betty Wilmington, Wing-Commander Gordon and Lady Bridget Sinclair, Major Michael and Lady Joanna Stourton, Major and the Hon Mrs John Bowlby, Mr Peter Crowder, QC, and the Hon Mrs Crowder, Mr and the Hon Mrs Richard Palmer.

Colonel Tom Hall (Lieutenant, HM Body Guard, Honourable Corps of Gentlemen-at-Arms), Lieutenant-Colonel Conway Seymour (representing Grenadier Guards) Mr Simon Corbett (James Capel), Mr Jamie Judd (chairman, Walter Judd), Mr Mark Nickerson (Stock Exchange Benevolent Fund), Mr Peter Rickett (Austin Friars Security) and Mrs Rickett.

Mrs Anthony Heywood, Miss Victoria Legge-Bourke, Madam James Mitchell, Mrs J Benjamin, Mrs David Lord, Lieutenant-Colonel Anthony Mather, Major A B Mainwaring-Burton, Mrs Richard Neville, Mr and Mrs Simon Bonham, Mrs Peter Beckwith-Smith, Mrs Willoughby Norman, Captain and Mrs John Grotrian, Major and Mrs J S Hawkesworth, Mrs Gerald Boord, Major R F Birch Reynardson, Mr and Mrs Michael Harvey, Major I R Westmacott, Mr and Mrs Simon Boscawen, Mr and Mrs A Boscawen, Major-General Rex Whitworth, Brigadier and Mrs A N Breitmeyer, Lieutenant-Colonel John Humphreys-Evans.

Mr and Mrs Robert Edwards, Mrs H Hildyard, Lieutenant-Colonel Richard Mayfield, Major Michael Drummond-Brady, Mr and Mrs Peter de Bunsen, Brigadier Peter Prescou, Mrs David Jamieson, Major-General and Mrs P R Leuchars, Colonel A Gregory-Hood, Mrs Brian FitzGerald, Colonel Peter Hodgson, Major Rags Courage, Mr and Mrs Alastair Forbes, Lieutenant-Colonel George West, Colonel N Pakenham-Mahon, Mr Michael Bonsor, Mr D V Bonsor, Mr and Mrs Michael Burrell, Mrs Alexander Galitzine, Mr M Brocklebank, Major and Mrs John Hawkesworth, Major and Mrs F Holdsworth-Hunt.

Mr and Mrs Harry St John, Miss Jane Egerton-Warburton, Mr and Mrs Michael Clark, Major Philip Colville, Mr Greville Selby-Lowndes, Mr Edward Synge, Brigadier and Mrs Michael O'Cock, Mr and Mrs Peter Adams, Mr and Mrs Henry Forbes, Mr William Bell, Mrs Simon Bond, Mr and Mrs Hugo Eastwood, Major Tim Gooch, Mrs A M Everett, Mr B Fitzgerald, Colonel David Fanshawe, Mrs Walter Goetz, Captain and Mrs Martin Busk, Mr and Mrs Christopher Pilkington, Mr and Mrs Michael Parker, Mr John Pryor, Mr and Mrs Ivor Crosthwaite, Mrs E Drummond Murray, Mrs A Liddell, Mr John Nivison and Colonel O J M Lindsay.

Dig closes in on saint's 'shining house'

BY NORMAN HAMMOND
ARCHAEOLOGY CORRESPONDENT

MORE than 100 human burials packed into a tiny area of a Scottish hilltop suggest that archaeologists may be closing in on one of Britain's earliest churches, built by one of the first missionary saints. Scientific mapping of buried features near by also suggests that more than a century of searching for St Ninian's "shining house" may be almost over.

Scotland's earliest church was built by Ninian, a 5th-century British bishop trained in Rome, at Whithorn in Dumfries and Galloway. He dedicated it to St Martin, and it came to be called the *Candida Casa*, the shining or white house; whether it was built of white stone, or had walls covered in white plaster, is not known.

The Venerable Bede, recording Ninian's exploits, credits him with the conversion of the southern Picts. Popular accounts of his life say that he was born in AD 367, visited St Martin at Tours, and died at Whithorn in 432, where he was buried in his own church.

Excavations have been carried out at Whithorn since the last century, and the site of the *Candida Casa* has long been provisionally placed under the east end of the later medieval priory and cathedral church. However, early churches (though not of the 5th century) have also been found to the south. The earliest periods have remained elusive like the saint himself. His Romanising ideas eventually triumphed over those of the Celtic church of St Columba, notably at the Synod of Whitby in AD 664, but since the Reformation both St Ninian and his shrine have fallen into obscurity.

The new discoveries have come from work carried out this summer on behalf of the Whithorn Trust by Amanda Clarke. Following the discovery of a 7th-century graveyard last year, many more burials have been uncovered, and some of these are thought to be 6th century.

Most striking, however, is the concentration of burials in the south end of the excavation, which lies on the hilltop just west of the priory remains. Some focal point seems to lie just beyond the limits of this year's dig, Ms Clarke said.

An independent sub-surface survey has identified what appears to be the foundations of a building in that area, with its long axis running east-west on the crest of the hill, continuing the line of the medieval priory nave.

While the nature and date of the feature cannot be confirmed until further excavations are carried out, the clustering of early burials raises both the suspicion and the hope that part of the earliest monastery, and perhaps even St Ninian's own church, may finally be revealed.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr H.G.D. Baldwin and Miss S. Troy
The engagement is announced between Hugh, son of Mr and Mrs Geoffrey Baldwin, of Shiplake, Oxfordshire, and Samantha, daughter of Mr and Mrs James Troy, of Newport, Gwent.

Mr R.J. Buckland and Miss S.C.P. Reed
The engagement is announced between Robert, younger son of Mr and Mrs Roger Buckland, of Llanelli, Carmarthenshire, and Siân, daughter of Mr and Mrs John Reed, of Tenby, Pembrokeshire.

Dr A.J. Chandler and Miss M.J. Moran
The engagement is announced between Anthony John, son of Mr Anthony Chandler and Mary Kavanagh Chandler, of London, and Mary Josephine, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Frank Moran, of Co Mayo, Ireland.

Mr N.R.A. Corsellis and Miss A.L. Davies
The engagement is announced between Nicholas, elder son of Colonel and Mrs David Corsellis, of London, W11, and Anna, eldest daughter of Mr Tudor Davies and Dr Judith Foy, of Cardiff.

Mr T.W. Davis and Miss R.O. Hinde
The engagement is announced between Toby, son of Mr and Mrs William Davis, of Little Gaddesden, Hertfordshire, and Rachel, daughter of Mr and Mrs David Hinde, of Great Gaddesden, Hertfordshire and Hong Kong.

Mr D.J.A. Galloway and Miss S.M. Bennett
The engagement is announced between Andrew, younger son of Mr and Mrs E.B. Galloway, of St Andrews, Fife, and Sharon, only daughter of Mr and Mrs John Bennett, of Crowborough, East Sussex.

Mr M.J. Gilliat-Smith and Miss J.J. Collins
The engagement is announced between Mathew, younger son of Mr and Mrs Brendan Gilliat-Smith, of Hadlow, Kent, and Jennifer, younger daughter of Brigadier and Mrs Peter Collins, of Camberley, Surrey.

Mr J.McA. Glover and Miss G.M. Burch
The engagement is announced between James, son of Lieutenant Commander and Mrs Richard Glover, of Edinburgh, and Georgina, elder daughter of Major and Mrs Edward Burch, of Ivybridge, Devon.

Dr D.C. Heaney and Miss T.H.L. Brufal de Melgarejo
The engagement is announced between Dominic, eldest son of Dr and Mrs Peter Heaney, and Tabitha, daughter of the Marqués and Marquesa de Lendínez, of Fleet, Hampshire and Gibraltar.

Mr E.R.V. Lacon and Miss N. Shinh
The engagement is announced between Richard, only son of Sir Edmund Lacon, Bt, and Lady Lacon, of Halesworth, Suffolk, and Natalie, only daughter of Mr and Mrs J. Shinh, of High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire.

Mr J.B. Lloyd-Jones and Miss G.E. McMillan
The engagement is announced between John Benedict, only son of Mr and Mrs Elwyn Lloyd-Jones, of Colby, Isle of Man, and Gaile, daughter of Mr and Mrs W. Alister McMillan, of Ayr, Scotland.

Mr M.C. Motley and Miss M.M. Carter
The engagement is announced between Mark Charles, son of Mr and Mrs Christopher Motley, of Oban, Argyll, and Melissa, daughter of Mr and Mrs Mark Carter, of Eccleshall Castle, Stafford.

Mr D.F. Schuster and Miss T.C.A. Altmann
The engagement is announced between Dominic, son of Mr and Mrs Henry Schuster, of Kensington, London, and Tamara, daughter of Mr and Mrs David Altmann, of Steventon, Oxon.

Mr M.D.C. Sutcliffe and Miss H.K. Wallace
The engagement is announced between Mark, youngest son of Mr and Mrs John Sutcliffe, of Great Broughton, North Yorkshire, and Henrietta, daughter of Mr and Mrs Ian Wallace, of Edinburgh.

Mr D.A. Warner and Miss C.L. Brown
The engagement is announced between David, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Robert Warner, of Upton Bishop, Herefordshire, and Katy, daughter of Mr and Mrs James Brown, of Cheltenham, Gloucestershire and Bahrain.

Middle Temple

The following have been elected Masters of the Bench of the Middle Temple: Professor Dawn Oliver, Mr Julian Malins, QC, Mr George Pulman, QC, Lord Kingsland, QC.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: John Wilkes, political reformer, London, 1727; Claude Henri, Comte de St-Simon, pioneer of socialism in France, Paris, 1760; Georg Büchner, dramatist, Goddelau, Germany, 1813; Nathanael West, novelist, New York, 1903; Rita Hayworth, actress, New York, 1918.

DEATHS: Sir Philip Sidney, soldier and poet, Zutphen, Netherlands, 1586; Ninon de Lenclos, courtesan, Paris, 1705; René Réamur, scientist, St-Julien-du-Terroux, 1757; John Ward, biographer, London, 1758; George Colman the Younger, actor, Kensington, 1836; Frédéric Chopin, composer, Paris, 1849; Gustav Robert Kirchoff, physicist, Berlin, 1887; Patrice MacMahon, President of France 1873-79, Château La Fôret, 1890; Julia Howe, feminist, writer and reformer, Newport, Rhode Island, 1910; Sir Michael Balcon, film producer, Hartfield, Sussex, 1977; S.J. Perelman, humorist, 1979.

Charles II, defeated by Oliver Cromwell at Worcester, fled to France, 1651.

The Queen opened Calder Hall, Britain's first nuclear power station, 1956.

University news

Oxford
ORIEL
The following elections have been made:
To a scholarship: T M F Allen (English); G A Jones (Chemistry); C Lamb (Medicine); M Livesey (Mathematics); C Medwel (Modern Languages); G R Smith (Physics); I M Snell (Chemistry); L H Tan (Engineering).
To an exhibition: J M Carroll (PPP); S Chang (Classics / English); M Davies (English); C M Driscoll (Theology); A C M Hultson (Physics); C Humphreys (Biochemistry); A E Whitely (Physics).

Reception

Context Limited
Sir Brian Neill was guest of honour at a reception held at Gray's Inn on Monday, October 14, 1996, by Context Limited in association with the Incorporated Council of Law Reporting for England and Wales to mark his retirement from the bench. Lord Mustill presented Sir Brian with a copy of the *electronic* Law Reports on behalf of Context and the Council of Law Reporting in recognition of the support and encouragement he has given to the application of information technology to the law.

Lord Woolf (Master of the Rolls), Lord Hoffmann, Lord Justice Brooke and Miss Carol Ellis, CBE, QC, were among those present.

Church news

Appointments
The Rev Graham Earney, Director of the Bishop Mascall Centre, and Hon Team Vicar, Ludlow group of parishes: also Diocesan Development Representative (Hereford).

The Rev John Newcombe, Assistant Curate, St Lawrence, Stroud and Uplands w. Slad: to be Associate Minister, Nailsworth, w special responsibility for Horsley and Newington Bagpath w Kingscote (Gloucester).

Basketmakers' Company

The following have been elected officers of the Basketmakers' Company for the ensuing year:
Prime Warden, Mr J. Hefferman; Junior Warden, Mr D.W. Imrie-Brown.

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People do not lay to heart the truth, that those whom God has chosen enjoy his grace and mercy and that he comes to the help of his holy people. Wisdom of Solomon 4 : 15

BIRTHS

AGNEW - On October 12th, to Stella (née Gilmore) and Andrew, a daughter, Elsie, a sister for Megan.

ALEXANDER - On October 12th, to Mandy (née Ricks) and Mischa, a beautiful daughter, Ella Frederika Anna, a sister for Joe. Wow!

ANDERSON - Matthew and Yvonne (née Birrell) are overjoyed to announce the arrival of Phoebe Eleanor Louise at Forth Park Hospital, Kirkcaldy, on Saturday 12th October 1996. Many thanks to the excellent Maternity team.

BODEN - On October 10th, to Sophie (née Lampard) and Johnnie, a daughter, Kate, a sister for Anna.

BUNN - On October 8th, to James and Mary (née Sims), a son, Samuel Charles, born at home. A much loved brother for Thomas.

BUTCHER - On 10th October 1996 in Oakville, Ontario, to Stephanie (née Drucker) and Kevin, a son, Liam.

CONCAN - On October 5th, at Billinge, to Alison (née McKinstry) and Shaun, a son, Jonathan Patrick, a brother for Megan.

CROSTHWAITE EYRE - On October 14th, to Rebecca (née Nelson) and Oliver, a son, George Oliver Douglas.

DAVIES - Andrea Maia born at The Portland Hospital on October 10th to Claudia and Dave.

DENTON - On October 15th, to Julia (née Vernon) and Jonathan, a son, Edward John, a brother for Douglas.

DONALD - On October 15th, in London, to Emma and Charles, a son, Harry, a brother for Jake.

DROUSSIOTIS - On October 15th 1996, to Carolyn (née Burdin) and Peter, a beautiful daughter, Isabella Euridice.

DYER - On October 8th in Nairobi to Sophie (née Willis Fleming) and Martin - a daughter.

FREEDMAN - On September 4th 1996 at The Portland Hospital, to Pilar (née Benardout) and Lloyd, a son, Benjamin Aaron.

GREY - Philip and Laura are pleased to announce the birth of their daughter Ella Lauren on 11th October 1996, a sister for Thomas.

HARRISON - On October 5th, to Vivienne and Phillip, a daughter, Josephine Alice Kendall.

JOYCE - On October 11th at The Portland Hospital, to Sara (née McLaughlin) and Matthew, a son, Martin Patrick.

McKEAN - On 13th September, to Liz (née White) and John, a son David John Alasdair, now at home. A brother for Helen and Giles, always remembering Anna. Deo Gratias.

MELVIN - On 13th October, to Helen (née Goodyear) and Lindsay, a son, David Benedict, a brother for Ruth, Hannah and Joshua.

POWER - On 1st October 1996, to Alison (née Marsh) and Denis, a daughter, Alexandra Robin.

RUSSELL - On October 7th, in St. Lô, Manche, to Rosine (née Hascault) and Alistair, a daughter, Emma Judith Jeannine.

YATES - On September 25th at Harrogate General Hospital, to Alison (née Herbert) and Jonathan, twin sons, Harry Joseph and Charles William.

GOLDEN ANNIVERSARIES

FORD:GOSLING - On October 17th 1946 at St John the Baptist and St Helens Church, Toby and Mary. With love from all the family.

DEATHS

ARMITAGE - On October 14th, Joan Augusta Munro, beloved wife of Kenneth. Funeral Service on Wednesday 23rd October at St Marylebone Crematorium, East End Road, N2 at 2 pm.

BAKER - On 14th October 1996, suddenly in Taunton, Somerset, Clifford Ernest, aged 84 years. Enquiries to E. White & Son Ltd, Funeral Directors, tel: (01823) 272183.

BARBER - On 14th October 1996 peacefully, John, loved husband of Pearl. The service will take place at St Nicolas Church, Cranleigh, on Tuesday 22nd October at 12.45 pm. Donations to Musicians Benevolent Fund. Enquiries Cranleigh Funerals, (01483) 275758.

BERAUD - Tragically, on October 13th 1996, Jean Pierre, aged 40 years of Chatsworth, Derbyshire. The dearly beloved husband of Diane and devoted father of Sam and Oliver. Funeral Service at St Peter's Church, Edensor on Wednesday, October 23rd at 10 am prior to cremation at Chesterfield. No flowers by request. Donations gratefully received for Chesterfield Royal Hospital Accident & Emergency Department which may be sent to J.W. & J. Mettam Limited, Mill Street, Bakewell DE45 1DX.

BISSELL - On October 13th, suddenly, Frederick Charles, aged 78, husband of the late Fulvia and dear father of Evelyn and Heather. Enquiries to A.C. Towner Ltd. (01424) 436386.

BROTHERS - On October 15th John (Jack) Valentine, Lt. Cmdr. R.N. aged 80, whilst on holiday in Bankfield, beloved husband of Sylvia and a much loved father and grandfather. Private cremation; a memorial service to be arranged later in Kent.

BURNS - Peacefully on 13th October 1996 Jean, aged 90 years. Beloved sister of Eileen, Phillip and Richard. Greatly loved and sadly missed by all her family and friends. Rest in peace.

CALDER - The Revd. Ralph Forman Godley, on 15th October at Mill Hill aged 89. Beloved husband of June, dear father of Alison and Shiena, grandfather of Malcolm, David, Sally, Clare and Alex. Funeral at Unless Church, Mill Hill, on Monday October 28th at 12.30 pm. Family flowers only. Donations if desired to The North London Hospice, Woodside Avenue, N12 8TF.

CORNFORTH - Peacefully at home on October 15th 1996 Jack Witherington Cornforth, M.A. Cantab. Formerly Engineering Manager Imperial Chemical Industries Plastics Division, aged 72 years. Much loved husband of Joan for fifty one years and beloved father of Diana and John. Funeral Service at West Herts Crematorium, Garston, North Watford on Thursday 24th October at 2.30 pm. Family flowers only. Donations if desired to Imperial Cancer Research. Funeral arrangements by L.C. Weston F.D. tel: (01582) 712865.

DOLMETSCH - Peacefully at her home in Peebles on October 15th 1996, Mary Douglas Dolmetsch, dearly loved mother of Francois, Jeanne, Marguerite and the late Richard. Service in the Old Parish Church of Peebles on Tuesday October 22nd at 1.15 pm to which all friends are invited, thereafter to Mortonhall Crematorium, Pentland Chapel, Edinburgh at 2.45 pm.

GORDON-BROWN - Ian died peacefully in bed on 5th October aged 72. His death was sudden and unexpected. Loved and respected by all, he will be greatly missed.

KNOLLYS - On October 15th peacefully at home, David Cyprian aged 71, loved husband of Pamela and dear father of Deborah, Catherine, Elizabeth, Fanny and Caroline. Funeral at the Priory Church of St Mary and St Blaise, Boxgrove, 2.45 pm Wednesday 23rd October, followed by private cremation. Family flowers only. Donations if desired to Alzheimers Society, c/o Edward White and Son, South Pallant, Chichester, PO19 1SY.

LEE - On 13th October 1996 Gwendoleen Eva May aged 82 years peacefully at her home in Richmond. Private cremation. Donations if desired to The Katharine Dormandy Trust c/o T.H. Sanders & Sons, 447 Upper Richmond Road West, East Sheen, SW14 7PP.

MADDEN - Evelyn Edith (née Brown) suddenly at home on 13th October, aged 91. Beloved wife of the late F.A.V. Madden OBE and beloved mother of Pat, grandmother of Philip and James and mother-in-law of Roger Scowen. Funeral at St Leonard's Parish Church, Seaford, on 24th October at 12.15 pm. Enquiries to Cooper & Son (Funeral Directors), tel: (01323) 492666.

MARKS - Peacefully on October 11th 1996 at Hurst Manor, Martock, Asenath Kate Marks, in her 97th year, of Norton-sub-Hamdon, Somerset, wife of the late Albert Victor Marks and youngest child of the late Caroline and Thomas Sweet of Norton-sub-Hamdon. Funeral Service followed by interment at the Church of St Mary the Virgin, Norton-sub-Hamdon, at 2 pm on Friday 18th October.

McGAW - On 14th October peacefully at home Patricia, darling wife of Alan for more than 56 blissful years. Formerly widow of Ivor Nicholson C.B.E. Mother of Brian and David Nicholson, Mary Christie and Jan McGaw, sister of Claudia Howard, grandmother, great-grandmother, aunt, great-aunt and loving friend of many others. Private funeral at 2.45 pm Monday October 21st at Putney Vale Crematorium. Family flowers only. Donations if desired to League of Friends of The Royal Marsden Hospital, Fulham Road, SW3, where she was a Volunteer for many years. Memorial Service to be announced.

MILLS - Juanita died 7th October. The world has lost a beautiful woman. Your loving son Dennis and family in Australia.

MITCHARD - On October 12th 1996 Helen Janice aged 58, beloved wife of James and loving mother of Edward, Tristan and Caspian. Funeral Service at Chapel of New College, Oxford, on Tuesday October 22nd at 12 noon, followed by interment in Headington Quarry Churchyard. Donations if desired for good causes connected with New College and Squirrel Schools, Oxford c/o A.V. Mallett Funeral Directors, 124 Lime Walk, Headington.

RICHARDSON - Eileen Helen Lilian, dear wife of H.E. (Ted) and mother of Clare, Nicholas and Peter, died peacefully at Sheringham on October 14th aged 69 years. Eileen touched many lives and will be sorely missed by her family and friends. Funeral at St Faith's Crematorium, Norwich, on Monday October 21st at 10am. Family flowers only but donations if desired may be made to Action Research c/o Blyth Funeral Services, 4 Cremer Street, Sheringham, Norfolk.

SHERLOCK - Peter Charles on October 15th tragically in a car accident. Much loved husband of Glen, father to Katherine, Alexander and Bodedick. Cremation private. No flowers. Donations if wished to BACUP.

SUTHERLAND - Marjorie Elizabeth, died peacefully on Monday, 14th October, aged 97. Dearly loved mother and grandmother, she will be very sadly missed by her family and friends. Funeral Service at Putney Vale Crematorium at 3 pm on Tuesday, 22nd October. Donations to charity as desired.

VALE - On 15th October at Cirencester, Irene Mary aged 101, widow of P. Mervyn Vale, loving and loved mother of Teresa (Davies) and Lionel, grandmother and great-grandmother. Funeral Service Cirencester Parish Church Wednesday October 23rd at 2.30 pm followed by burial at Stratton Cemetery. Family flowers only please but donations if desired to R.N.I.B., 224 Great Portland Street, London W1N 6AA.

VEREY - Henry Nicholas, peacefully on 16th October 1996. Beloved husband of Dinah, adored father of Dickon and Georgia. Private family funeral. No flowers. Donations if wished to: The Mary Obolensky Underwood Foundation for Leukaemia Research (MOUF) 107 Walton Street, London SW3 2HP or P.O. Box 3191 Palm Beach, Florida 33480, U.S.A. Thanksgiving Service to be announced later.

WILSON - Jack peacefully on 11th October after a short illness. Much loved husband of Jo.

IN MEMORIAM — PRIVATE

BUCHANAN - Iain M. died 17th October 1995. Remembering you with undying love and devotion, missing you terribly, Pat.

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OBITUARIES

BIRGER LUNDE

Birger Lunde, wartime Norwegian Merchant Navy officer, died in New York on September 24 aged 82. He was born near Bergen, on October 13, 1913.



In a contribution to the British war effort which was out of all proportion to Norway's tiny population, Birger Lunde was one of thousands of his country's seamen who helped to keep supply lines open throughout the Battle of the Atlantic. It is not generally realised what epic sacrifices were made by the Norwegian merchant fleet between 1940 and 1945, nor what a massive difference Norwegian ships made to the supply situation in Britain's most desperate hours.

When the Germans invaded Norway in April 1940 more than 1,000 Norwegian merchant ships were at sea. They sailed without hesitation to British ports to place themselves at the disposal of their ally on charter, in spite of being offered huge financial inducements by Germany to become part of its merchant marine. Britain thus acquired at a stroke the services of the world's fourth largest merchant navy. As Churchill was later to write: "Getting the Norwegian ships during the darkest days of the war was the equivalent of getting in England a trained and equipped army of one million men."

In fact, the apparent hyperbole probably underestimated the situation. Throughout the entire war Norwegian merchant ships carried 40 per cent of all the oil brought into Britain plus similarly great amounts of ammunition, food and other vital supplies.

But the Norwegian sailors paid heavily. One fifth of the crews perished over the five years from May 1940; many men survived only with nerves shattered beyond repair. Lunde himself was sunk three times, nearly dying of exposure in an open boat on one occasion and being severely wounded on another.

Like so many of his compatriots in a country with a strong seafaring tradition, Birger Lunde was determined to go to sea from an early age and trained as a cadet in a square rigger. Like all Norwegian merchant marine officers, he worked his way up through the ranks and by the time war broke out in 1939 he was a second mate.

When Norway was invaded Lunde was at sea in the *Taranger* which, in spite of German blandishments sailed, like other Norwegian ships, for an English port. She almost immediately took part in the evacuation of Allied troops from Channel ports after the defeat of the British and French armies, and was badly damaged by *Luftwaffe* dive-bombing attacks in Le Havre harbour in June 1940. Thereafter she was thrown into the Battle of the Atlantic, carrying supplies between Canadian ports and Liverpool.

For a year *Taranger* and her crew led a charmed life. But on May 2, 1941, her luck ran out, when she was attacked by a U-boat which surfaced and was able to shell her, unarmed as she was, with impunity. Hit repeatedly by 4-inch shells, *Taranger* was soon in a sinking condition and the lifeboats were launched.

In Lunde's boat was a wounded English crewman with a large chunk of shrapnel embedded in his foot. Since officers of Lunde's seniority were expected to be medically knowledgeable, he sterilised a large sheath knife over a flame and, during a bitter cold night in an open boat, cut out the shrapnel while three burly Norwegian sailors pinned the patient down on a thwart. Lunde was greatly impressed by the Englishman's stoicism, while the patient was later to acknowledge in a BBC interview his gratitude for the "proper professional job" the Norwegian officer had made of his foot.

Picked up after two days at sea by a British corvette, Lunde was eventually brought back to England via Reykjavik. After a short period with British Coastal Forces, he shipped as first mate in the freighter *Blink*. But in February 1942 she was torpedoed during a storm off Cape Hatteras, North Carolina. Only one boat could be launched and two dozen men scrambled into it. A grim ordeal lay ahead of them.

In the rough weather the overloaded boat capsized, losing the few provisions the men had managed to lay their hands on. When they righted it, the boat continually filled with water in the heavy seas, and as their strength ebbed in the bitter cold they could not bale it out. Men soon began to die. Black despair gripped those who lived.

To try to improve the stability of the waterlogged boat the survivors were compelled to heave the dead overboard. This attracted sharks whose attempts to pull the enfeebled survivors out of their frail craft only added to the horrors of the ordeal. By the time they were picked up by an American merchant ship only six of the original two dozen in the lifeboat remained alive.

Landed in New York, Lunde spent some time in hospital and then convalescing. But he had lost all his money and clothing with the loss of the *Blink* and he could not afford to stay onshore in such an expensive city. Soon he was shipping again, this time in the *Oregon Express* (a Norwegian vessel notwithstanding her name). In spite of her reputation for a turn of speed that was supposed to render her invulnerable to submarines, she too had been sunk within the year.

The new German acoustic homing torpedoes were her undoing. Getting in among a convoy in which *Oregon Express* was steaming, a U-boat sank the two ships directly ahead of her. As she slowed and turned to avoid the wreckage she was struck almost amidships. She swiftly capsized under the weight of her heavily sandbagged bridge and, as she heeled over on her beam ends, Lunde and his captain were able to step from it straight into the water.

Lunde had, however, sustained severe injuries. Picked out of the sea, he was taken to Nova Scotia and thence to hospital in New York. But in spite of the fact that he had a badly-damaged spine, broken ribs and collarbone and a dislocated knee, the need for experienced officers was so great that he was compelled to return to sea, this time in the *SS Polarland*. It was only after a further three months on convoy duty that he was permitted to come ashore and have the extensive surgery he so desperately needed.

For the rest of his life the steel pins he had inserted in his spine triggered the alarm whenever he passed through airport security. For the remainder of his war Lunde worked in the office of Nortraship, the company through which the Norwegian merchant vessels were chartered. There he had the grisly task of informing next of kin, whenever a crewman was lost at sea.

After the war he took American citizenship. He was to be back in combat zones in the Korean War during which he skippered an American cargo ship. Dangerous though this could be, often involving close inshore work within range of enemy batteries, he found it child's play compared to the horrors of the U-boat war.

The singular Norwegian contribution to the Battle of the Atlantic was recognised in a BBC television programme *Timewatch: Forgotten Heroes*, in 1994. Lunde had been awarded the St Olav Medal with Oak Leaves by King Haakon for his leadership following the sinking of the *Blink*.

His wife Mildred died in 1991. He is survived by his son John.

LAURA LA PLANTE

Laura La Plante, silent film actress, died on October 14, aged 91. She was born on November 1, 1904.

LAURA LA PLANTE was the blonde star of countless breezy comedies during the 1920s. For six years, from 1924 to 1930, she reigned at Universal as no actress was to do until the arrival of Deanna Durbin in the 1930s. When she was not acting she came across as rather taciturn young woman. She was also chronically short-sighted. But the camera worked its magic and transformed her into a sparkling comedienne.

In Britain she was so popular that when a debate was staged in the House of Lords on the possibility of taxing American productions, one member testily complained that he did not want to be stopped from seeing Laura La Plante in British theatres.

Laura La Plante (her real name) was born in St Louis, where her father was a dancing teacher. The family were, she said, "horribly horribly poor" and, after her parents had divorced, she and her mother went to stay with her mother's family in California. She made her first film in 1919, less from ambition than from a need to add to the family coffers. There followed a year at Fox in 1921, where she was miscast in a series of Westerns. She never did learn to ride a horse properly but, by having a rope strapped around her legs and saddle, she contrived to stay on.

She arrived at Universal in 1922, for a part in the *Perils of Yukon*, and more roles in two-reel comedies and Westerns. Irving Thalberg, who was then leaving Universal for MGM, asked her to come with him. She had no official contract with Universal yet, but naively felt she had given her word and therefore must stay.

In the event, her loyalty was rewarded. After several Western features, as Hoot Gibson's leading lady, the British comedian Reginald Denny chose her as his romantic interest in *Sporting Youth* (1924) — her first real break at the age of 19. The following year she made *Skinner's Dress Suit* again with Denny. It was the sort of role she was made for — the modern, upwardly mobile, suburban wife, who lives slightly beyond her means and is always able to outwit a bumbling husband.

One scene in the film, in particular, where La Plante learns to dance the Charleston, completely captured the effervescent spirit of the new jazz age. By the mid-1920s La Plante was Universal's biggest star and was making $5,000 a week. She was able to buy a house opposite Louella Parsons in Beverly Hills.

La Plante's best film was *The Cat and the Canary* (1927), most famous for incorporating the techniques of German Expressionism into the archetypal spooky comedy. Paul Leni, the German director, had problems with the English language but somehow gesticulated his points across to his actors. La Plante, who played the heiress to a haunted house, was charming — "simple, natural and highly intelligent" as the usually critical writer Jim Tully described her. The result was a triumph and much better than subsequent remakes.

When she was not in comedy, La Plante showed her range in melodrama. She played an American danseuse trapped in the intrigues of the Russian Imperial Ballet in *The Midnight Sun* (1926); and was one third of the eternal triangle in *Smouldering Fires* (1924).

La Plante had been working since she was 15 and by 1927 had still not taken a holiday. The coming of talkies caused her no real problem: her first all talkie was the comedy *Hold Your Man* (1929) in which she played a painter. But by 1930 she was exhausted and she abruptly left Universal when her contract expired. The studio seemed too preoccupied by the upheavals caused by the advent of sound to notice. La Plante was upset and abandoned Hollywood for Europe.

With one marriage, to the director Bill Seiter, behind her, she married the head of Warner Brothers business in Britain, Irving Asher, in 1934. She starred in British films for a couple of years, but was content, after her happy second marriage, to retire.

She and her husband lived on a ranch in California, where they brought up two children, and Laura took up sculpting. Asher, who was the more proud of the two about his wife's acting career, and the more talkative, would regale film historians with stories of the silent era when they came to interview his wife. He died in 1985. She is survived by her son and daughter.



GEORGE VAFOPOULOS

George Vafopoulos, Greek poet, died in Thessaloniki on September 16 aged 93. He was born on August 24, 1903.

IN A country whose modern literature consists almost entirely of poetry — which is popular in a manner inconceivable to the rest of Europe where the craft of verse writing has been marginalised to the point of extinction — George Vafopoulos nevertheless ploughed a lone furrow. This may have had something to do with the fact that he was not of the Athens-based school of poets of which Seferis was the centre and of which the recently deceased Nobel laureate Odysseus Elytis was a vital member.

Seferis, Elytis, Demetrius Antoniou and Nikos Gatsos all had the influential Athens literary periodical *Ta Nea Grammata* as the forum for their early work. Based in Thessaloniki, where he had settled in the 1920s having been born outside Greece, Vafopoulos had an essentially Macedonian outlook.

Nor, unlike the Seferis-led *Ta Nea Grammata* group, was he afraid to use features of *katharevousa* — the artificial literary Greek introduced in the 18th century — which had been rejected by them in favour of the vernacular demotic. Indeed, he was able to use elements of *katharevousa*'s last great exemplar, the "*decadent*" poet Kostas Karyotakis, and make the language work in his verse.

That Vafopoulos's work is not better known outside Greece is much to do with this relative isolation within the country — and a lack of good translations, especially into English. Yet the Thessaloniki "school" — if it can be so called — had some advantages over its Athenian counterpart. Its members were mainly prose writers and it was alive to developments in the European novel, such as the work of Kafka, whose procedures Vafopoulos was able to assimilate into his poetry.

It, too, had its own magazine, *Macedonian Letters*, which Vafopoulos edited from 1924. One of Vafopoulos's early achievements was to recognise the unique genius of Cavafy, who moved betwen *karathevousa* and the demotic with ease. He published Cavafy's work in *Macedonian Letters*.

George Vafopoulos was born of Greek parents at Gevgeli, which in those days before the First World War was in southern Serbia. Following an unsettled period, of both domestic upheaval and political unrest, he came to Greece. After attending Athens University where he graduated in mathematics, he settled in Thessaloniki. There he read philosophy and literature at the Aristotelian University and gradually made himself a part of the city's intellectual and cultural life, as a member and leader of the city council, and as founder and, from 1938 to 1963, director of the city library.

Both he and his wife Anastasia, whom he married in 1946, were generous benefactors of the arts and between them established the Vafopoulian Arts Centre at Thessaloniki.

Vafopoulos began to write in the 1920s and went on to produce 12 books of poetry as well as plays and critical studies. He also published five volumes of autobiography covering the years 1930 to 1964, an essential guide to literary life as it flourished in that period.

But the poetry is his legacy. As the Greek scholar Thanasis Papathanasopoulos has observed, his earliest poems, collected as *The Roses of Myrtali* (1931), constitute a "genetic pool" for all of the work that follows. The volume is pervaded by a sense of acute emotional states — intense longing; the pangs of parting and solitude; the agonies of love. Death, especially, haunts his lyrics in a way which recalls the obsessive, dark romanticism of Edgar Allan Poe.

Of the volumes that succeeded *The Roses of Myrtali* perhaps *The Floor* (1951) exemplifies Vafopoulos at his most characteristic and most powerful. In spite of his frequent use of a highly literary style he is also capable of great simplicity. In his shorter lyrics his elaborate poetics give way to single images placed on the page in a manner which conveys an almost tangible suffering.

A translation into English of his collected poems is currently being prepared for publication at the Dionysia Press, Edinburgh.

Vafopoulos leaves his widow. There were no children.

ALAN TYRER

Alan Tyrer, CBE, Head of English Translation at the European Court of Justice, 1973-83, died in Portugal on September 14 aged 78. He was born in Wigan on June 30, 1918.

A POLYGLOT who in the course of a long and varied life mastered some nine European languages, Alan Tyrer brought to his position at the European Court of Justice great linguistic talent combined with a sound understanding of the law. He shouldered responsibility not only for the translation into English of the court's judgments as they were delivered, but also for a 20-year backlog of cases which had been decided before the accession of Ireland and the United Kingdom to the EEC.

A superb prescriptive grammarian and a keen member of the Queen's English Society, who treasured language as a precise instrument of communication, Tyrer set exacting standards for his staff. But he secured their devotion through his fairness and mischievous sense of humour. On his retirement from the post in 1983 he was appointed CBE in recognition of his services to Europe.

Alan Kendrick Tyrer mastered his first two foreign languages as an undergraduate at Selwyn College, Cambridge, where he read French and German. Later he went on to study law and was called to the Bar by the Middle Temple in 1947. But, with the outbreak of the Second World War, his linguistic skill — especially his command of the German language — proved invaluable and he was posted to Bletchley Park to join the codebreakers.

On demobilisation he went to work for a brief period for the Home Office in the Royal



Pardons department, before moving on as parliamentary draftsman to Jersey where, for eight years, he drafted legislation in both English and French.

After this, he took a job for four years as an assistant company secretary but continued to maintain his linguistic interests. While teaching at night school, Tyrer discovered that he had a vocation for teaching which he decided to take up full-time. He became head of the Modern Languages Department at Bridgwater Girls' Grammar School and, after a further four years, returned to his home county, Lancashire, to teach at Queen Mary School, Lytham. There, for 11 years up to the summer of 1973, he was head of the Modern Languages Department. The examination pass rate of his pupils was, perhaps unsurprisingly, remarkably high.

Out of interest and love for languages, Tyrer decided to learn Dutch and Italian. Then, out of necessity, when the Spanish teacher left the school unexpectedly, he taught himself Spanish during the holidays so that he would be able to take over her teaching responsibilities when the next term began. After poring over the textbooks throughout the Easter vacation, he helped his sixth form students to achieve good examination results by always keeping three weeks ahead of them in the book — though none of them were ever to suspect this.

After the entry of the United Kingdom into the EEC in 1973, the European Court of Justice held an open competition to recruit lawyer linguists. Tyrer entered and was quickly appointed as the court's first Head of English Translation. Put in charge of a team of lawyers, all feeling their way in new territory, he built up an effective and competent department which he was to run for ten years.

Even after retiring to Portugal in 1983, Tyrer was not content simply to occupy himself with cultivating his garden. He learnt Portuguese and also embarked on a new career as a freelance translator. For some years until the time of his death, he assisted the court's English translation division by fielding, with his customary relish and professional skill, large amounts of translation. He was also studying Finnish which is, arguably, the most difficult of all European languages to learn.

Alan Tyrer is survived by his wife, Linda, herself a gifted linguist and translator, and by two daughters from his previous marriage.

MR. HOUSMAN'S FAREWELL.

LAST POEMS. By A.E. HOUSMAN. (Grant Richards. 5s. net.)

Almost a generation divides Mr. Housman's "Shropshire Lad" from these "Last Poems", and much has happened meanwhile. The "Shropshire Lad" retains and multiplies its admirers; at least one poem — "Smart lad, to slip betimes away" — has become a common quotation; and the poet has developed into a classical critic, second to none, with a mind like a lancet. Now, doubting whether he will "ever be impelled to write much more," and feeling that he "can no longer expect to be revisited by the continuous excitement" under which he wrote most of his other book, he prints forty-one poems written at various times since 1895, and "will to the woods no more".

If the woods must be left, Mr. Housman knows how to leave them. "Fancy's Knell" is quintessential.

When lads were home from labour
At Abdon under Clee,
A man would call his neighbour
And both would send for me.
And where the light in lances
Across the mead was laid,
There to the dances

Away we both must hie,
To air the ditty,
And to earth I.

With such resignation and with such fine workmanship does the book close. Both it and its predecessor must rank as an extraordinary excursion into the field of fancy on the part of an intellect intensely preoccupied with other studies. Not that we should deny fancy to a critic, or ignore what the critical faculty has done for the dreamer, for it is plain enough here, and explains some of the secret of Mr. Housman's mastery. It is not for nothing that our poet is in the technical sense a trained scholar. Apocalyptic as the "continuous excitement" which caused the original inspiration must have been, since it lifted the fringes of a world which slower minds might need a lifetime to approach, these "lads," of humble status, perverse wills, and tragic fate, these woods, hills, and meadows, set conspicuously against vast cosmic processes, these ironic musings on "heartless, witless nature," have been drilled and disciplined into austerity of content and perfection of form by most rigorous criticism. Once again has the classical tradition told in the making of an English poet, though of classical influence in the ordinary sense there are few direct indications.

ON THIS DAY

October 17, 1922

A.E. Housman startled his family and friends in 1896 with the publication of A Shropshire Lad, *but it was to be many years before* Last Poems *appeared.*

I fetched my flute and played.

Wenlock edge was umbered.
And bright was Abdon Burf,
And warm between them slumbered
The smooth green miles of turf;
Until from grass and clover
The upshot beam would fade,
And England over
Advanced the lofty shade.

The lofty shade advances,
I fetch my flute and play:
Come, lads, and learn the dances
And praise the tune to-day.
To-morrow, more's the pity,

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NEWS

Dunblane parents pledge to fight on

■ The parents of Dunblane last night pledged to continue their fight to have all handguns banned after the Government announced the most drastic firearm curbs yet in response to the massacre of 16 children and their teacher last March.

Some 160,000 of the 200,000 handguns held legally in Britain — including all automatic weapons — will have to be handed in and destroyed, but that did not satisfy the families, who insisted that there should be no compromise ..... **Pages 1, 4, 5**

British lobbyists to boost Gaddafi image

■ A British political lobbying company has been hired by Colonel Muammar Gaddafi to improve Libya's image and end its international isolation. The disclosure, only weeks after the latest cash-for-questions affair, will cause further controversy about the activities of lobbyists ..... **Page 1**

Royal costs cut

The Queen is to cut costs by assuming direct financial control of the Royal Family's travel arrangements. She will take over from the two government departments ..... **Page 2**

Suez revelation

A secret document proves that Anthony Eden lied to Parliament and colluded with Israel and France to manufacture an excuse for bombing Egypt during the Suez crisis ..... **Page 11**

Sleaze inquiry

MPs have approved an investigation into allegations that a Government minister sought to influence a Commons committee of inquiry into the cash-for-questions affair ..... **Page 2**

Like father, like son

Jimmy Hoffa, son of the legend who with Mafia help built the Teamsters union before his mysterious disappearance, is engaged in a fierce battle for the union's presidency ..... **Page 12**

Celine killer jailed

The father of Celine Figard spoke movingly of the beautiful daughter he had lost as Stuart Morgan, a lorry driver, began a life sentence for her murder ..... **Page 3**

Budget penalties

The European Commission has approved a scheme for stiff penalties against states which run high budget deficits inside monetary union ..... **Page 13**

Hitler work sold

A watercolour of Vienna attributed to Adolf Hitler has been auctioned in Lincolnshire for £2,500, almost three times the estimate ..... **Page 6**

Press warning

Qian Qichien, the Chinese Foreign Minister, has warned that after next year's takeover the Hong Kong press will not be allowed to criticise the Peking leadership ..... **Page 16**

Bart's to close

Britain's oldest hospital, St Bartholomew's in London, will close by 2001, the chairman of the NHS trust which manages it. The trust announced a £300-million plan to build a new hospital ..... **Page 8**

Flight from Kabul

Thousands of people are fleeing the battle for control of Kabul after the ousted government warned Taleban to quit the city or face a bloodbath ..... **Page 17**

Bullied to death

Police are investigating the death of a "brilliant" Sikh schoolboy who hanged himself days after describing in an essay the misery of being bullied ..... **Page 9**

Art under guard

The Vienna outlet of Christie's will be under heavy guard from next week as it prepares to auction art stolen from Austrian Jews by the Nazis ..... **Page 18**

Undertakers offer gems to die for

■ An American undertaker is launching a line of fashion jewellery crafted specially for the bereaved. The range of brooches and necklaces, including broken heart designs and teardrops, will be unveiled at next week's US National Funeral Directors' convention in Ohio. The items are hollowed out and filled with a sample of the dead person's ashes ..... **Page 12**

GRAEME PARKES/REUTER



A humpbacked whale calf is manoeuvred back into open water off Queensland yesterday after it became trapped in an anti-shark net

BUSINESS

Sitting pretty: The son and daughter of Sir Graham Kirkham, chairman of DFS, the furniture retailer, are set to make up to £100 million by selling their shares in the company ..... **Page 27**

Compensation: John Clark, the corporate troubleshooter who turned round the fortunes of BET, was today awarded £3 million compensation ..... **Page 27**

Morgan Grenfell: Deutsche Morgan Grenfell, the investment bank, dismissed four directors of its asset management arm ..... **Page 27**

Markets: The FT-SE 100 index fell 26.4 points. Sterling's trade-weighted index rose from 88.6 to 88.7 after a rise from $1.5825 to $1.5848 but a fall from DM2.4378 to DM2.4368 ..... **Page 30**

SPORT

Golf: Steve Stricker, a young player from the United States, may cause an upset in the Toyota World Match Play Championship at Wentworth ..... **Page 48**

Motor rallying: Colin McRae, of Scotland, won the San Remo rally for the first time, beating Carlos Sainz, of Spain, by 22sec. Tommi Makinen, of Finland, has already secured the world championship ..... **Page 48**

Rugby league: Great Britain must resist the temptation to throw the ball about in the international against New Zealand ..... **Page 47**

Racing: Shaamit, the Derby winner, was forced into premature retirement as a result of a tendon injury sustained during the Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe ..... **Page 49**

ARTS

Screen dream: In a packed week of cinema releases a stunning melodrama stands out: Lars von Trier's *Breaking the Waves*, starring newcomer Emily Watson and set in the Hebrides ..... **Page 37**

Oh, oh, James: Leading the week's video releases is the latest James Bond action epic, *Goldeneye*, starring Pierce Brosnan; plus the ground-breaking Disney cartoon, *Toy Story* ..... **Page 38**

High art: Yasmina Reza's witty hit *Art* looks destined to become a minor stage classic, aided by Albert Finney, Tom Courtenay and Ken Stott ..... **Page 39**

Low art: *Walt Disney's World on Ice* wobbles perilously on its blades and collapses into an unfunny mishmash of routines ..... **Page 39**

FEATURES

Acting worried: Timothy West tells Noreen Taylor that he worries about acting, about people and about life ..... **Page 19**

Celebrity infidelity: How do the famous deal with the shock and misery of being publicly betrayed? ..... **Page 21**

Valerie Grove talks to Alf Morris about his Bill to relieve the burden of those caring for elderly or disabled people ..... **Page 21**

BODY AND MIND

Dr Thomas Stuttaford on Madonna's successful delivery. Plus ever-ready condoms, curing breast cancer, hyperactivity ..... **Page 20**

TRAVEL

Bargains of the week: Seven days on the Costa Dorada or a cruise down the Nile ..... **Page 42**

THE PAPERS

Since the end of the 1980s, all the major developed countries have been the scene of a profound reorganisation of their armament industries. Particularly in the US, Great Britain and Germany, the end of the Cold War, reduction in the military budget and technological progress, have led to a rationalisation of industrial tools and the coming together of companies. France is lagging behind in this domain

— Le Monde



TOMORROW

IN THE TIMES

■ POP
David Sinclair reviews the new albums from Phil Collins and the Beautiful South

■ SPORT
The best of British: David Miller on Tim Henman v Greg Rusedski

TV LISTINGS

Preview: Paul Nash painted the horrors of two world wars. *The Works* (BBC2, 8pm). **Review:** Lynne Truss enjoys an unauthorised version of the Bible ..... **Page 47**

OPINION

Cullen's craft

No licensing scheme, however rightly drawn, can prevent guns being misused. That is why Lord Cullen, the Government and the opposition are all right to argue for restrictions ..... **Page 23**

A cursed catch

Britain cannot sit back and allow this plunder to continue. It must fight against the European fisheries policy in the European way, with vigour, aggression and the strongest resolve ..... **Page 23**

Bitter heritage

The Campaign for Real Ale says that the traditional British pub is in need of conservation just as much as stately homes and cathedrals ..... **Page 23**

COLUMNS

WILLIAM REES-MOGG
Europe's fascist spectre: far-Right parties exploit Maastricht just as Hitler did the Treaty of Versailles ..... **Page 22**

JOHN BRYANT
Beware the sporting gesture. The victory salute, the shaken fist, the V-sign, the dramatic protest, the heavy-handed joke — they can all go very wrong. Just ask Mark Bosnich. He was hired by Aston Villa as a goalkeeper, not a comedian, and now probably wishes he had stuck to the script ..... **Page 50**

PETER RIDDELL
Parliament is likely to take the right decision over banning handguns but is reaching it in an overhasty way. A clearcut ban is likely to isolate illegal holders of guns more effectively than a partial ban with loopholes ..... **Page 5**

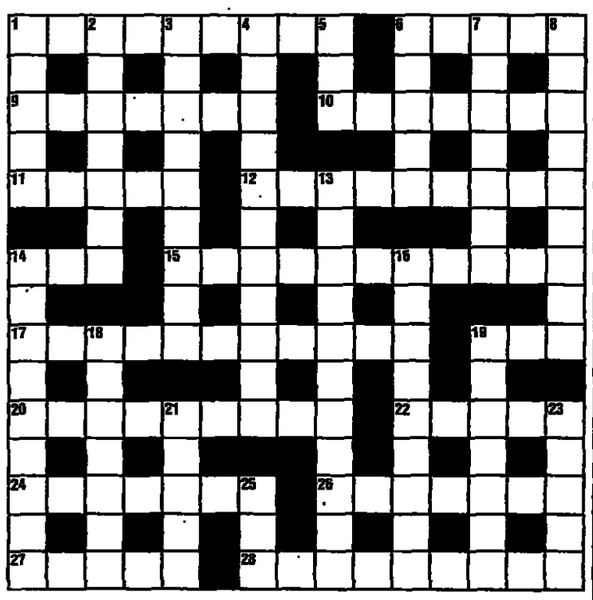
OBITUARIES

Birger Lunde, wartime Norwegian Merchant Navy hero; **Laura La Plante**, siren of silent movies; **Alan Tyrer**, Head of English Translation at the European Court of Justice ..... **Page 25**

LETTERS

Ban on handguns; Gerry Adams's autobiography; censorship of Elizabethan theatre ..... **Page 17**

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,301



ACROSS

1 Sounds like tree-top, where invaders landed (9).
6 Loud is not this (5).
9 Family member's superb academic achievement (7).
10 Exiled duke, none the less, appearing to have successful spell (7).
11 In personality, a hooligan? (5).
12 State, in time, seen repeatedly to reform (9).
14 Most of the skin is covered (3).
15 In disorder, as soldiers go after leave? (4,2,5).
17 Intoxicating fun (11).
19 Violently strike back, producing damage (3).
20 I go with cop, led all over the place? (6-3).
22 Advert that's not changed 15 (5).
24 View wing on duck (7).
26 Staff running round in circles, with us making a stink? (7).
27 She's thrown bishop out of chapel (5).
28 Fancy biscuit? It's been devoured by favoured crew (5,4).

DOWN

1 Pest-ridden vehicle (5).
2 Confounded tree filling a part of the garden (7).
3 Wild hounds bark in Canadian inlet (6,3).
4 Flexible players securing rubber (7,4).
5 Lower type of criminal (3).
6 Iron case filled with right weight to be stabilised (5).
7 Thick coat or top as I'm shivering (7).
8 One who harasses people in high places (9).
13 Worthless piece of cake! (7,2,2).
14 What's made for maid with house to clean and polish? (9).
16 Understand an arithmetic error (6,3).
18 Hunt in pursuit of gunmen going for explorer... (7).
19 ... and likewise if held up by Communist gangster (7).
21 Cold one gets hot and poorly with (5).
23 Climb over river in part of flight (5).
25 Pinch a glamour girl? (3).

Solution to Puzzle No 20,300

R	A	I	N	F	O	R	E	S	T	■	P	A	L	M
I	■	S	■	E	■	O	■	H	■	M	■	I	■	O
G	R	O	M	M	E	T	■	A	L	A	D	D	I	N
E	■	C	■	I	■	T	■	L	■	S	■	A	■	A
L	A	R	Y	N	G	E	A	L	■	S	I	N	U	S
■	■	A	■	I	■	R	■	O	■	P	■	T	■	■
P	A	T	E	N	■	S	A	T	U	R	N	I	N	E
R	■	E	■	E	■	O	■	N	■	R	■	■	■	■
O	Y	S	T	E	R	B	E	D	■	D	U	S	T	Y
G	■	N	■	U	■	R	■	U	■	O	■	■	■	■
R	O	B	E	D	■	F	R	A	N	C	O	L	I	N
A	■	O	■	I	F	■	W	■	T	■	V	■	A	■
M	A	G	E	N	T	A	■	I	C	I	N	E	S	S
M	■	U	■	G	■	L	■	O	■	N	■	A	■	■
E	A	S	T	■	C	O	N	G	E	N	I	T	A	L

Times Two Crossword, page 52

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HOURS OF DARKNESS

Sun rises: 7.28 am — Sun sets: 6.03 pm
Moon sets 9.35 pm — Moon rises 12.32 pm

First quarter October 19
London 6.05 pm to 7.30 am
Bristol 6.12 pm to 7.40 pm
Edinburgh 6.07 pm to 7.51 am
Manchester 6.08 pm to 7.42 am
Penzance 6.26 pm to 7.49 am

FORECAST

☐ **General:** Much of England and Wales will be dry and bright day with sunny spells, though some showers are also likely in the west for a time. More general rain will reach southwestern parts in the evening. Temperatures about normal but winds will freshen ahead of the rain.

Scotland and Northern Ireland will have sunny intervals and some heavy showers, mainly in the west, which will die out before rain reaches Northern Ireland in the evening. Temperatures close to normal but, while winds in the north die down, those in the south will freshen later.

☐ **London, E Anglia, E Midlands, E, Central N, NE England, Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, Aberdeen, Moray Firth:** Sunny spells and isolated showers. Wind south or southwest mainly moderate. Max 14C (57F).

☐ **SE, Central S England, W Midlands, Channel Isles,** Sunny spells. Early showers dying out. Wind southwest becoming south light or moderate. Max 14C (57F).

☐ **SW England, Wales, IoM, N Ireland:** Locally heavy showers dying out. Rain from west later. Wind southwest light becoming southeast fresh. Max 13C (55F).

☐ **NW England, Lakes, SW, NW Scotland, Glasgow, Cent Highlands, Argyll:** Sunny intervals. Heavy showers at first but dying out later. Wind south light becoming southeast moderate. Max 12C to 14C (54F to 57F).

☐ **NE Scotland, Orkney, Shetland:** Sunny intervals. Scattered showers gradually dying out. Wind southeast to south fresh, decreasing. Max 11C to 13C (52F to 55F).

☐ **Outlook:** Fairly unsettled with rain or showers. Rather windy at times

AROUND BRITAIN YESTERDAY

24 hrs to 5 pm; b=bright; c=cloud; d=drizzle; ds=dust storm; du=dull; f=fair; fg=fog; g=gale; h=hail; r=rain; sh=shower; sl=sleet; sn=snow; s=sun; t=thunder

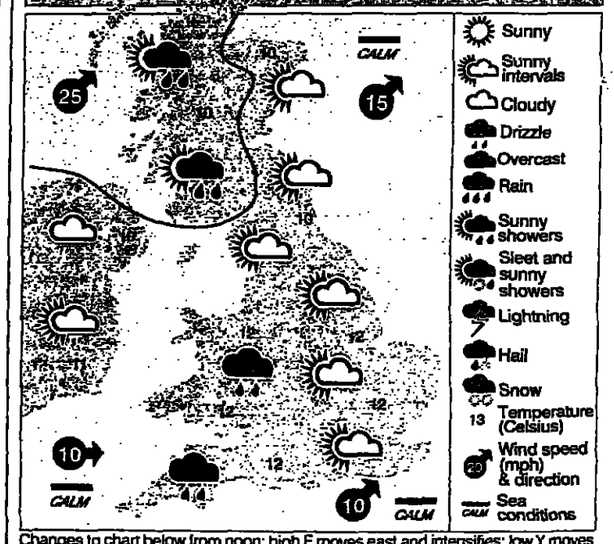
	Sun hrs	Rain in	C	Max F			Sun hrs	Rain in	C	Max F	
Aberdeen	2.3	0.02	10	50	sh	Leuchars	2.0	0.02	11	52	sh
Aspatria	0.3	1.08	10	50	sh	Littlehmptn	6.2	0.13	15	59	sh
Aviemore	0.1	0.08	9	48	sh	London	9.0	0.01	15	59	s
Belfast	2.3	0.19	11	52	sh	Lowestoft	8.9	0.01	15	59	s
Birmingham	7.9	0.02	14	57	sh	Margate	9.2	0.01	15	59	s
Bognor R	8.2	0.15	15	59	sh	Minehead	6.1	0.34	14	57	sh
Bristol	6.5	0.02	14	57	s	Morecambe	2.7	0.23	13	55	b
Buxton	1.1	0.13	10	50	sh	Newcastle	6.9	-	13	55	b
Cardiff	7.2	0.10	14	57	sh	Newquay	5.2	0.24	13	55	b
Clacton	8.7	-	14	57	s	Norwich	8.4	-	15	59	sh
Colwyn Bay	5.7	0.37	13	55	r	Oxford	8.8	0.01	15	59	sh
Cromer	9.1	-	15	59	b	Penzance	X	0.17	15	59	sh
Eastbourne	8.4	0.18	15	59	s	Poole	6.3	0.10	16	61	s
Edinburgh	2.4	0.07	12	54	sh	Prestatyn	X	0.19	13	55	b
Eskdalemuir	0.1	0.80	8	46	r	Ross-o-wye	8.6	0.07	14	57	sh
Exmouth	6.1	0.07	14	57	s	Saumln Sind	3.8	0.25	15	59	sh
Fishguard	4.4	0.41	13	55	sh	Scarboro'	7.7	-	15	59	s
Folkestone	8.4	0.07	15	59	s	Shrewsbury	0.3	0.14	13	55	sh
Glasgow	0.1	0.23	11	52	sh	Skegness	9.5	-	15	59	s
Guernsey	5.5	0.13	16	61	sh	Southend	9.0	-	15	59	s
Hastings	8.3	0.10	15	59	s	Southsea	5.1	0.17	14	57	sh
Hayling I.	5.9	0.06	15	59	sh	Stornoway	7.2	0.55	11	52	s
Herne Bay	8.7	-	15	59	s	Swanage	5.7	0.24	15	59	s
Hove	6.7	0.02	14	57	b	Teignmouth	7.0	0.08	15	59	s
Hunstanton	9.5	-	15	59	s	Tenby	4.8	0.20	14	57	sh
Isle of Man	4.4	0.23	13	55	sh	Troon	0.6	0.26	11	52	r
Jersey	7.4	0.01	15	59	h	Torquay	7.4	0.15	15	59	b
Kinloss	3.2	0.01	12	54	sh	Ventnor	6.5	0.04	15	59	b
Leeds	4.1	0.07	13	55	sh	West-s-mere	6.3	0.10	15	59	b
Lerwick	6.0	0.06	11	52	b	Weymouth	6.4	0.07	14	57	sh

ABROAD

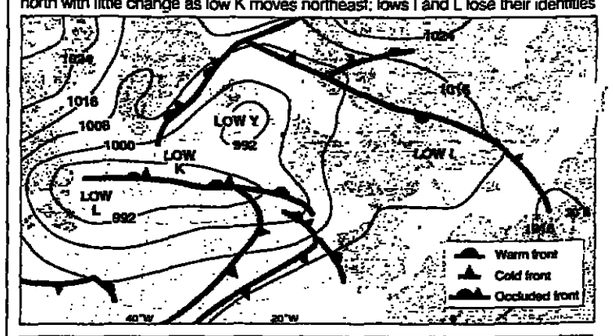
Ajaccio	20	68	f	C'phagn	14	57	s	Malta	26	79	f
Akrotiri	24	75	s	Dublin	9	48	c	Molb'me	25	77	s
Alex'dria	26	79	f	Dubrovnik	23	64	f	Mexico C	X		
Algiers	20	68	f	Faro	19	66	s	Miami	28	79	r
Amst'dm	16	61	f	Florence	21	70	r	Milan	16	61	r
Athens	22	72	s	Frankfurt	13	55	f	Montreal	6	43	s
B Aires	27	81	s	Funchal	22	72	s	Moscow	7	45	s
Bahrain	32	90	s	Geneva	17	63	s	Munich	16	61	f
Bangkok	34	93	s	Gibraltar	21	70	s	N Delhi	X		
Barbados	30	86	f	Helsinki	6	46	f	N York	14	57	s
Barcelona	18	64	f	Hong K	28	82	f	Nairobi	27	81	f
Beirut	24	75	s	Innsbruck	19	66	f	Naples	26	79	d
Belgrade	23	73	s	Istanbul	19	66	f	Nice	16	61	r
Berlin	16	61	s	Jeddah	35	95	s	Oslo	10	50	c
Bermuda	25	77	s	Jo'burg	27	81	s	Paris	15	59	f
Biarritz	14	57	f	L Angels	18	64	c	Peking	18	64	s
Borde'x	19	66	f	L Palmas	24	75	f	Perth	18	64	c
Brussels	17	63	f	Le Touet	15	59	f	Prague	16	61	f
Budapst	19	66	s	Lisbon	19	66	f	Reykjavik	9	48	f
Cairo	26	79	f	Locarno	12	54	r	Rhodes	23	73	s
Cape Tn	22	72	s	Luxembg	13	55	c	Rio de J	23	73	f
Ch'church	10	50	X	Luxor	31	88	s	Riyadh	35	95	s
Chicago	23	73	s	Madrid	17	63	f	Rome	20	68	r
Cologne	16	61	f	Majorca	16	61	f	S Fr'sco	18	64	c
Corfu	22	72	f	Malaga	21	70	f	S Paulo	19	66	c
Salzburg	17	63	s
Santiago	17	63	f
Seoul	17	63	s
Sing'por	30	86	f
St'kholm	9	48	d
Straslb'rg	17	63	f
Sydney	24	75	s
Tangier	19	66	s
Tel Aviv	24	75	f
Tenerife	26	79	s
Tokyo	23	73	s
Toronto	7	45	s
Tunis	25	77	f
Valencia	22	72	s
Vanc'ver	9	48	r
Venice	19	66	f
Vienna	19	66	f
Warsaw	16	61	f
Wash'ton	18	64	s
Wel'ngton	14	57	X
Zurich	12	54	f

Temperatures at midday local time on Tuesday X = not available

NOW TODAY



Changes to chart below from noon: high F moves east and intensifies; low Y moves north with little change as low K moves northeast; lows I and L lose their identities



HIGH TIDES

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT	TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	4.27	6.8	4.47	6.8	Leith	5.18	5.4	5.39	5.3
Aberdeen	4.01	4.1	4.21	4.0	Liverpool	1.37	8.9	1.59	8.9
Avonmouth	9.48	12.5	10.09	12.3	Lowestoft	-	-	12.15	2.5
Belfast	1.29	3.5	1.45	3.4	Margate	14.38	4.5	9.03	4.6
Cardiff	9.36	11.5	9.55	11.2	Milford Haven	8.47	6.5	9.08	6.4
Devonport	8.23	5.2	8.43	5.0	Newquay	7.39	6.5	8.04	6.4
Dover	1.08	6.6	1.30	6.6	Oban	8.08	3.7	8.22	3.6
Dublin (N Wall)	2.03	3.9	2.28	4.0	Penzance	7.04	5.3	7.22	5.1
Falmouth	7.26	5.0	7.51	4.9	Portland	9.09	1.9	9.29	1.8
Greenock	2.58	3.5	3.18	3.5	Portsmouth	1.42	4.6	1.59	4.5
Harwich	2.04	3.9	2.23	4.0	Shoreham	1.27	6.0	1.46	5.9
Holyhead	0.38	5.4	1.02	5.4	Southampton	1.05	4.5	1.24	4.5
Hull (Albert D)	8.55	7.2	9.12	7.0	Swansea	8.54	6.9	9.12	8.7
Ilfracombe	8.28	8.8	8.47	8.6	Tees	6.19	5.1	6.40	5.0
King's Lynn	8.58	6.8	9.19	6.6	Walton-on-Naze	2.06	4.1	2.27	4.1

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HIGHEST & LOWEST

Yesterday: Highest day temp: Guernsey, 18C (61F); lowest day max: Tulloch Bridge, Highland, 8C (46F). highest rainfall: Capel Curig, Aberconwy, and Conwy, Gwynedd, 1.22in; highest sunshine: Hunstanton, Norfolk, 9.5hr.

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RNLI RESCUE UPDATE - 17 OCTOBER 1996

Total number of lives saved so far this year:	724
Total number of lifeboat launches so far this year:	3,501
Cost to RNLI per day:	£173,000
Cost to taxpayer:	£0
To make a donation, telephone:	0800 543210

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THE TIMES 2

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INSIDE SECTION 2 TODAY

BUSINESS EDITOR Lindsay Cook

THURSDAY OCTOBER 17 1996



ARTS
Emily Watson's debut film is a dark masterpiece
PAGES 37-39



FOCUS
Festival that makes an art of fine wine and food
PAGES 45, 46



SPORT
Taking steps to avoid the crush on the dancefloor
PAGES 47-52

TELEVISION AND RADIO
PAGES 50, 51

Morgan Grenfell dismisses five senior executives

BY ROBERT MILLER

MORGAN GRENFELL, the troubled fund management house owned by Germany's Deutsche Bank, yesterday moved decisively to put the problems of the recent past behind it by dismissing five senior executives. All have left the firm and received pay-offs according to their basic contracts with any bonus entitlement stripped out.

The dismissals follow the conclusion of an internal investigation, carried out with assistance from Ernst & Young, the accountant, into irregularities in three Morgan Grenfell European unit trusts. Two of these funds were managed by Peter Young, who was dismissed for gross misconduct and who is under investigation by the Serious Fraud Office.

The most senior victim of yesterday's purge was Keith Percy, the chief executive of Morgan Grenfell Asset Management. As *The Times* reported on Monday, his replacement is Robert Smith, an insider who built up the development capital arm of the business from scratch since joining the group in 1989.

Mr Percy earned a total remuneration package last year of around £1.2 million, of which more than half was made up in bonuses. It is understood that under the basic terms of his contract he received less than £400,000 when he left the group.

Graham Kane, managing director of Morgan Grenfell's unit trust arm, has also left with a basic pay-off, understood to be less than £200,000. Mr Kane, who had stood aside as a director of Imro, the watchdog for fund managers which is investigating Morgan Grenfell and the role of a number of its senior executives in monitoring Mr Young's trading activities, is now expected to resign this post.

The other senior executives who have left Morgan Grenfell are Glyn Owen, the chief investment officer for the firm's international funds, including those run by Mr Young, and Michael Wheatley, the compliance director. Paul Ebling, a senior associate director and compliance officer, has also left.

Commenting after the departures, Mr Smith said: "The initial internal investigation is largely complete and Morgan Grenfell Asset Management will continue to work with Imro and other regulators to resolve outstanding issues. If compensation is found to be due to investors under Imro rules and other legislation, we will pay it."

He continued: "As the business moves forward, the priority is to restore our reputation in the unit trust business."

Winning back trust, page 31

BUSINESS TODAY

STOCK MARKET INDICES

FTSE 100	4024.4	(-26.4)
Yield	3.89%	
FTSE All share	1975.89	(-10.29)
Nikkei	21397.19	(-32.7)
New York:		
Dow Jones	5978.32	(-26.46)*
S&P Composite	700.26	(-2.31)*

US RATE

Federal Funds	5 5/16%*	(5 5/16%)
Long Bond	98 5/32*	(98 11/32)
Yield	6.90%*	(6.84%)

LONDON MONEY

3-mth Interbank	5 11/16%	(5 5/16%)
Lfte long gilt future (Dec)	109 11/32	(110 5/32)

STERLING

New York:		
$	1.5848*	(1.5879)
London:		
$	1.5848	(1.5823)
DM	2.4365	(2.4358)
FFr	8.2443	(8.2386)
SFr	2.0055	(2.0050)
Yen	177.74	(111.72)
£ Index	88.7	(88.6)

DOLLAR

London:		
DM	1.5383*	(1.5410)
FFr	5.2053*	(5.2060)
SFr	1.2675*	(1.2690)
Yen	112.15*	(112.29)
$ Index	97.7	(97.1)

Tokyo close Yen 112.08

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent 15-day (Dec) $23.90 ($24.10)

GOLD

London close $381.75 ($381.55)

* denotes midday trading price

Upheaval

THE French Government paved the way for a big upheaval in the European defence industry by announcing the sale of Thomson, the troubled electronics combine, to Lagardère Groupe. **Page 28**

Doubts

Sir Roger Hurn, chairman of Smiths Industries, doubts the shake-up of the European defence industry would produce a champion capable of challenging the Americans. **Page 29**

Fall in jobless level fuels fears on rates

BY JANET BUSH, ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

A DRAMATIC fall in unemployment and a small rise in the growth of earnings seemed to point yesterday to a strengthening of the economy, and heighten City speculation that higher interest rates may be needed to head off inflationary pressures.

However, the Treasury played down such fears, arguing that average earnings growth is still very low compared with Britain's recent history, and that industry's costs and prices have fallen spectacularly.

Although the Treasury never comments directly on its attitude towards interest rates, the views expressed yesterday strongly suggest that Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, will continue to resist pressure from the Bank of England to tighten monetary policy.

After yesterday's figures, many in the City believe that the Bank's calls for higher rates may harden into an official recommendation at the next monetary meeting on October 30.

Britain's headline unemployment total fell by 35,600 in September, a far larger fall than the City had expected and the largest decline in any month since December 1994.

The claimant count now stands at a seasonally adjusted 2,073,10, its lowest level for more than five and a half years. Statisticians believe that the downward trend in unemployment has accelerated and that the claimant count is set to fall by between 15,000 and 20,000 each month. This clearly holds out the welcome prospect for the Government of a fall in unemployment below the 2 million mark by the general election.

The rate of unemployment fell by 0.1 per cent from the previous month, to 7.4 per cent, the lowest it has been since March 1991 when it stood at 7.3 per cent.

Less encouraging was news that average earnings growth in July has been revised up, from 3.75 per cent to 4 per cent, and continued at that rate in August. Many City economists argued that this is sure evidence that the labour market is tightening as unemployment falls, and that there is a risk of higher inflation unless interest rates are raised.

Martin Brookes of Goldman Sachs said: "These trends are likely to make the Bank of England increasingly concerned about a build-up of inflationary pressures and more uncomfortable with base rates at 5.75 per cent." In spite of this, he and many others believe that Mr Clarke will not oblige.

A powerful argument in the Chancellor's favour — if, as expected, he persists in fighting the Bank's arguments for higher rates — is the continued strength in sterling, which rose again yesterday. It closed at 88.7 on its trade-weighted index, compared with 88.6 on Tuesday. It has appreciated by nearly 6 per cent since the beginning of August, representing a significant tightening in monetary policy.

Roger Bootle, chief economist at the Midland Bank, still holds out the possibility of one more cut in interest rates before the election. He, like the Treasury, cites as his reasons very good producer prices, an evident slowing in retail sales growth, the fact that manufacturing is only just emerging from a long period of stagnation, and sterling's strength.

He said: "Manufacturing has seen no growth over the last year and is already having to grapple with a rising pound. How deeply distressing to contemplate higher interest rates on top of that."

Separate figures published yesterday showed that the Government borrowed a larger-than-expected £3.4 billion in September. This took the cumulative public sector borrowing requirement in the first six months of the financial year to £16.1 billion, compared with £20.1 billion at the same stage last year.

In spite of the possibility that the Chancellor's PSBR projection of £27 billion for the full year will be overshot, the City believes that political exigencies will mean that Mr Clarke still goes ahead with a package of tax cuts in next month's Budget.

Yesterday's combination of a rise in average earnings growth and a disappointing borrowing figure, coupled with a fall on Wall Street, helped to bring the FT-SE 100 index off this week's record highs. The index closed 26.4 points lower, at 4,024.4.

ANTHONY UPTON



John Clark after his High Court award yesterday

Ousted BET chief wins £3m in High Court

BY JON ASHWORTH

JOHN CLARK, ousted as chief executive of BET, the business services group, after its hostile takeover by Rentokil earlier this year, was yesterday awarded more than £3 million in compensation in the High Court.

Mr Clark, 55, who had been willing to settle out of court for £1 million, said he was delighted with the ruling, which is expected to influence future cases involving executive pay.

Lord Tebbit, the former Conservative Party chairman, was among witnesses to speak for Mr Clark in the High Court case, which leaves Rentokil facing costs estimated at £600,000. Lord Tebbit, a former non-executive director of BET, said that Mr Clark's contract and remuneration had been fairly set, given the near-bankrupt state of BET when he was brought in to turn it round in 1991.

The case is being described as the most important to deal with matters of modern executive pay in more than a decade. Mr Clark, an American, said that he regretted that the matter had come to court. He said: "I normally seek to resolve such matters in a private and mature manner."

Mr Clark had a three-year rolling contract — unfashionable under current thinking on boardroom pay. In his case, it was argued, the security of a three-year contract was merited, given the size of his task of shaking up BET.

Mr Clark's package could have topped £5 million, but he lost a claim to £2.1 million in share options. Mr Justice Timothy Walker's award to Mr Clark was for loss of his £490,000 salary — including increases — during the three-year notice period, plus damages for loss of pension rights, bonus payments of 50 per cent of salary, an executive car and chauffeur, health insurance and holiday entitlement.

Mr Clark, described by the judge as "an extremely able, energetic and successful businessman", was head-hunted by BET in 1991, and transformed the group's fortunes.

The judge rejected BET suggestions that Mr Clark had now "decided to retire", and accepted evidence that appointments for over-55s are rare.

Rentokil said that it would appeal against the award. A spokesman said that it had been willing to settle with Mr Clark for £950,000.

Pennington, page 29

£2.9m pension for ex-Wickes chief

BY SARAH CUNNINGHAM

HENRY SWEETBAUM is to draw his pension from a £2.9 million pension scheme fully funded by Wickes in spite of being held responsible by the DIY retailer for a £51 million overstatement of profits.

Mr Sweetbaum, former chairman and chief executive, denies knowledge of the practices that led to the overstatement and the company, which says he had "ultimate responsibility", is to make no claim against him or any other directors.

He has agreed to repay £720,000 netted under a long-term incentive scheme in 1994 and 1995. He has also agreed to waive any claim to a further £885,000 gross that he is due under the scheme. He is to retain his pension benefits, which should bring in about £175,000 per year, however.

Wickes may make claims against some members of its buying department. Bonuses were paid to some of the department's managers "on the basis of incorrect information," the company said in a letter to shareholders yesterday.

Les Rosenthal, group trading director and Chris Miles, commercial director, resigned from the company without compensation in August. Further disciplinary proceedings involving middle and junior ranking employees "will be implemented in due course", the company said.

The Serious Fraud Office and Department of Trade and Industry have been in contact with Wickes, but neither would comment yesterday.

Trefor Llewellyn, former finance director, has agreed to pay back all £485,000 of his 1995 net bonus payments. Michael Corner has resigned as administration director, but has not been asked to pay back any of his bonuses.

Wickes said that a report prepared for it by Linklaters and Paines, the solicitor, and Price Waterhouse, the accountant, shows that operating profit in 1995 was overstated by £26 million, in 1994 by £14 million and "in earlier years" by £11 million.

Correctly accounting for rebates has meant that the company made an operating loss in the first nine months of this year, the letter said. The company said there would be a further provision of £10 million unconnected with the profit overstatement.

Tempus, page 30

Children of DFS chief to sell £100m share stake

BY SARAH CUNNINGHAM

THE SON and daughter of Sir Graham Kirkham, chairman of DFS, the furniture retailer, are set to make up to £100 million by selling shares in the company.

Julie Cross, 30, Sir Graham's daughter, and Michael Kirkham, 29, his son, between them hold a 22 per cent share in the Doncaster-based company but they are not involved in its running and intend to sell "a significant proportion" of their holdings.

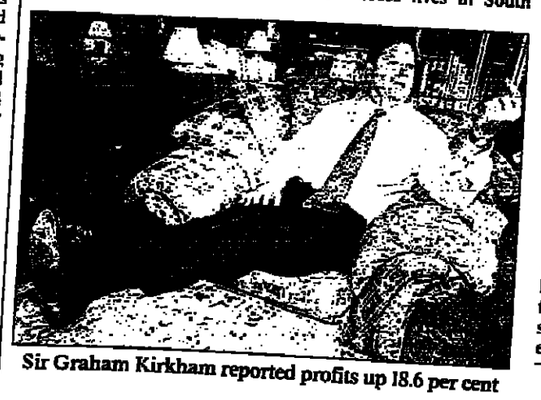
Sir Graham said his children were selling because they wanted a "broader investment portfolio". He denied that there had been any family split and said: "I can understand where they are coming from. If they feel it is right to sell now, then I want to support them." They will eventually inherit his 8 per cent holding in the company, he added.

Sir Graham, who is an avid collector of paintings, was knighted in the New Year's Honours List. He was widely reported to have made a £4 million loan to the Conservative party, but last month said it was his son who made the loan.

Mrs Cross lives in South Yorkshire and has two small children, the youngest born just a month ago. She was formerly a producer at Yorkshire Television and her husband works in the computer industry. Michael Kirkham, who is also married but has no children, lives in Ireland and works there for a young people's charity. Sir Graham described his children yesterday as "normal, down to earth, straightforward people."

DFS also announced yesterday that it will pay a 10p per share special dividend from an 18.6 per cent increase in pre-tax profit to £31.1 million. Earnings per share in the year ended July 27 were up 18.6 per cent to 19.66p and the full-year dividend has been increased 20.5 per cent to 10p per share. The final dividend of 6.9p (5.65p) is payable on December 13. The special dividend is payable on November 18.

Sir Graham said DFS's move into the South East has been very successful, with all three stores opened in the summer in the London area exceeding sales targets.



Sir Graham Kirkham reported profits up 18.6 per cent

Tempus, page 30

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THE SUNDAY TIMES, 4 AUGUST 1996

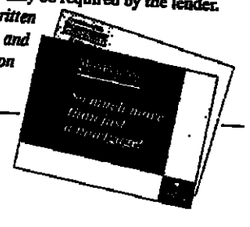
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ALLIED DUNBAR

US bank credits London influence

FROM RICHARD THOMSON IN NEW YORK

GOLDMAN SACHS, the last investment banking partnership on Wall Street, has chosen nearly one quarter of its new partners and managing directors from its London office, reflecting the growing importance of overseas operations to its profits.

The firm appointed nine of its 38 new partners, and 22 out of 87 "extended" managing directors, from London, in the two-yearly ritual that hands out some of the most coveted positions in investment banking.

The managing directors are a new level of pseudo-partners created this year to stem the flood of employees departing for high-paid jobs at rival banks. The position is intended to reassure the firm's brightest employees that they are valued employees.

Goldman was originally planning to appoint only about 60 of the new managing directors but intense competition from about 300 candidates pushed up the numbers to more than 80. They will get better pay and perks and a share of the firm's profits.

However, Goldman's emphasised that not all managing directors would necessarily make it to full partnership status.

The partnership appointments in London reflect the overall distribution of this year's appointments, the majority of which came in Goldman's profitable investment banking division. Timothy Plaut, Muneer Satter, Howard Schiller and Glenn Earle — who is returning from Frankfurt — all work in investment banking. Erland Karlsson and Girish Reddy work in the equity division, while Ronald Marks works in fixed income. Geoffrey Grant comes from the commodities and foreign exchange division and Paul Deighton works in the administration division.



Charles Millon, the French Defence Minister, left, with Jean Arthuis, Finance Minister, and Franck Borotra, Industry Minister, yesterday

French choose Lagardère over Alcatel-Alsthom for Thomson

FROM ADAM SAGE IN PARIS

THE French Government yesterday paved the way for a big upheaval in the European defence industry when it announced the sale of Thomson, its troubled electronics combine, to Lagardère Groupe.

The Government preferred a bid from Lagardère to an offer from Alcatel-Alsthom, but would have to inject Fr11 billion into the company before privatisation because of its precarious financial position.

Lagardère will integrate Thomson's defence arm, Thomson CSF, into its own subsidiary, Matra Défense Espace, to form the world's third largest defence-electronics group, Matra-Thomson.

Thomson's consumer electronics subsidiary, Thomson Multimedia, will be taken over by Daewoo Electronics, the South Korean firm, which could become the world's biggest television manufacturer.

Lagardère will pay a symbolic Fr1 for Thomson after beating off a rival bid from Alcatel, the telecommications group. The battle, which has been played out behind closed doors in Jacques Chirac's Presidential palace, gave rise to criticism and controversy. "The way in which the President has taken this decision, alone in his office, has created a certain malaise," *Le Monde* said in an editorial. Concern had been fuelled by the French Government's plans to recapitalise Thomson, which has debts of Fr25 billion, with a cash-injection of Fr11 billion.

British Aerospace and GEC are among the firms likely to be affected. Thomson's missiles operation will be incorporated into Matra's existing joint venture with BAe, while Thomson's airborne radar business is likely to be linked with GEC.

However, President Chirac vetoed Lagardère's plans for BAe to take a 15 per cent stake in Matra-Thomson, insisting that its participation be limited to less than 3 per cent. GEC will probably be invited to take a similarly marginal holding in the new company, the French press said.

Although M Chirac says Matra-Thomson should become a European "defence champion", he wants it to stay overwhelmingly French. Only once its Gallic ownership is secure will it be allowed to develop joint ventures with other European groups.

The French Government chose Lagardère against the expectations of most analysts because it believes the new company can become a "pole" of the French defence industry, the source said. Charles Millon, the French Defence Minister, said: "Matra-Thomson will be able to face up to international competition."

Tempus, page 30

Cables watchdog says 'co-operate'

BY CHRISTINE BUCKLEY

DON CRUICKSHANK, the telecoms regulator, has urged the cable industry to consolidate. In a move that breaks ranks with the heads of regulated industries, who generally advocate a diversity of players to encourage competition, he urged co-operation between cable companies.

Yesterday, Mr Cruickshank told the European Cable Communications conference: "It might seem a bit strange that the head of a competition authority should be urging operators to co-operate rather than to compete. You are individually competing with dominant companies, but not against each other, across most of your business objectives."

However, merger talks between Telewest and Nynex CableComms, the two largest cable groups, appear to have broken down. Neither would comment on the talks yesterday, which are believed to have been halted in the past few days.

However, Nynex is committed to the belief that the industry must consolidate. It is thought the company is in talks with other cable groups.

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Germany's ways can aid us, says CBI chief

BY OLIVER AUGUST

BRITISH companies must embrace many more aspects of the German model of capitalism to remain competitive, Adair Turner, Director-General of the CBI, said yesterday.

Mr Turner said the UK must focus on the long-term investment and specialised training that made Germany Europe's most successful economy.

He told an Anglo-German business conference organised by Robert Fleming, the investment bank, that British businessmen should not be afraid of inheriting Germany's high wage level, associated with the EU Social Chapter. "Germany does have high wages," he said. "But high wages are a sign of success, not failure."

Mr Turner argued that British business can take a long-term view, and said: "Look at British Biotech. It has a market capitalisation of £1.5 billion and not a penny of profit so far; that is either a very long-term investment or completely mad."

Mr Turner's views were endorsed by Martin Taylor, chief executive of Barclays Bank, and David Sainsbury, chairman of J Sainsbury.

Mr Taylor said: "Germany is rapidly moving in the direction of flexibility, while the challenge for Britain is to attain a higher level of skills. In this country, training is what government blames business for not doing, and education is what business blames government for not doing."

City Diary, page 31

Reform put forward for property valuations

BY GRAHAM SEARJEANT FINANCIAL EDITOR

COMPANIES would no longer be able to carry properties indefinitely at original cost in their balance sheets under new proposals from the Accounting Standards Board. This would end the widespread practice of assuming that new buildings have an indefinite life or that any wear and tear is offset by rising market values.

This practice has been widely attacked since the property slump and the trend fall in inflation. Most supermarket groups have started depreciating out-of-town superstores built on land with limited alternative uses. Shares in some brewery and hotel groups have already dipped in anticipation of the proposals.

Measurement of Tangible Fixed Assets, the board's latest discussion paper, offers companies the choice of carrying assets at cost less an annual depreciation charge or revaluing them regularly: by outside professionals at least every five years and through systematic adjustments in between. All assets of the same class would have to be treated the same way. Investment properties may be treated differently. Since they must be carried at market values, depreciation need not be charged.

Sir David Tweedie, ASB chairman, said: "Companies that revalued . . . at the height of the property boom have since been able to leave this valuation in their accounts."

Graham Searjeant, page 31
Accountancy, page 32

TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells		Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.10	1.94	Malta	0.616	0.561
Austria Sch	18.18	16.88	Netherlds Gld	2.892	2.682
Belgium Fr	53.31	49.01	New Zealand $	2.42	2.20
Canada $	2.255	2.085	Norway Kr	10.88	10.09
Cyprus Cypt.	0.775	0.720	Portugal Esc	257.50	239.00
Denmark Kr	9.93	9.13	S Africa Rd	7.78	6.98
Finland Mkk	7.88	7.21	Spain Pta	212.00	199.00
France Fr	8.65	8.00	Sweden Kr	11.14	10.34
Germany Dm	2.597	2.387	Switzerland Fr	2.14	1.96
Greece Dr	397	372	Turkey Lira	151650	143850
Hong Kong $	12.80	11.80	USA $	1.684	1.554
Iceland	115	95			
Ireland Pt	1.036	0.956			
Israel Shk	5.49	4.84			
Italy Lira	2535	2380			
Japan Yen	192.10	176.10			

Rates for small denomination bank notes as supplied by Barclays Bank. Other rates apply to traveller's cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Inntrepreneur faces group writ on beer

SOLICITORS representing aggrieved tenants of Inntrepreneur Pub Company said yesterday that they could be just weeks away from filing a group action against the company in the continuing dispute over tied beer. Mark Barron, of Taylor Wilcocks, said the firm was close to putting together a group action on behalf of about 80 clients. Charles Russell, another firm of solicitors, confirmed yesterday that it has issued writs and counterclaims on behalf of an unspecified number. The cases are hanging on a decision by the European Commission over Inntrepreneur's application for an exemption for its leases from competition rules.

Inntrepreneur, owned by Grand Metropolitan and Foster's Brewing Group, confirmed that it had received 114 writs, less than 4 per cent of its estate. It said it had no knowledge of any group action, and did not intend to make any extra provision for legal action in its accounts for the year to September.

Oil price held above $25

TENSION between Iraq and Iran and worries about low levels of US heating oil stocks as winter approaches kept the price of Brent North Sea oil above $25 yesterday. On Tuesday, prices had risen to $25.06 per barrel, the highest since the Gulf War in 1991, before retreating on profit-taking. The fall of reserves, which have been cut to a bare minimum at a number of refineries, means that refineries will have to step up crude purchases throughout the winter season in the northern hemisphere.

Flotation expert dies

THE City has lost one of its most senior and respected figures with the death yesterday of Nick Verey, a managing director of SBC Warburg. Mr Verey, 53, who died from leukaemia, joined the old Rowe & Pitman in 1961 as a stockbroker and moved with the Warburg merger in 1986 and again last year with the SBC takeover. A Stock Exchange director, he was noted for his expertise in flotations such as Abbey National, BA and, most recently, Railtrack. He leaves a widow, Dinah, a son, Dickon, 21, and a daughter, Georgia, 17.

BT takes legal action

BRITISH TELECOM and Viag, its German partner, have launched legal proceedings in Germany against Global One, alleging breach of European competition rules. Global — created to provide worldwide telecom services to corporate customers — is a joint venture between Deutsche Telekom, France Telecom and Sprint of America. BT said Global was given EU clearance on condition that its competitors can obtain supplies from two operators in addition to Deutsche and France but that licences had yet to be granted in France and Germany.

Police urge jury review

THE Commissioner of the City of London Police has added his voice to that of George Staple, Director of the Serious Fraud Office, in arguing for a review of the role of juries in the most complex fraud trials. William Taylor, calling for research, told a National Fraud Forum conference: "The concept of a judge and assessors for a few types of fraud should be re-visited." He added: "Tampering with, let alone dismantling, our trials by jury is sensitive and controversial, but not the huge philosophical issue that it is sometimes painted."

Sears, Roebuck up 22%

SEARS, Roebuck & Co, one of America's biggest retailers, increased third-quarter earnings by 22 per cent, from $228 million to a record $279 million. Sales rose to $9.07 billion from $8.44 billion. Arthur Martinez, chairman and chief executive, said: "Customers have responded enthusiastically to our department store renovations, broader assortments and quality brands, especially in apparel, and are heavily shopping our off-the-mall stores." International operations, comprising stores in Canada and Mexico, lost $13 million ($7 million).

TUC attacks dole move

THE TUC yesterday called the new jobseeker's allowance a "rip-off" and demanded its withdrawal. John Monks, General Secretary, said that workers paid National Insurance contributions to earn a right to a year's unemployment benefit, but the new allowance would last only six months. "Something our members have paid for is being stolen," he told the national conference of the TUC Unemployed Workers Centres. The allowance should be withdrawn, restoring the right to 12 months' contributory benefit for unemployed workers, he said.

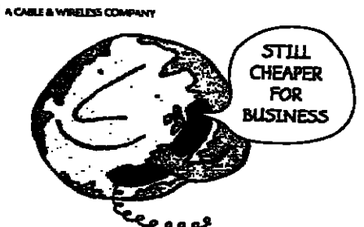
Chepstow in good form

CHEPSTOW RACECOURSE, the horserace meeting organiser, saw interim profits gallop ahead to £100,139 (£16,944) before tax over the six months to June 30. But the company said the comparison was distorted by the poor summer weather last year, which saw two of the ten scheduled meetings abandoned, and pointed to the £96,598 it made in the first half of 1994. "From this you will appreciate that forecasting for a full year is far from an exact science," the company said. There is still no interim dividend, against earnings per share up to 18.3p (3.4p).

Select buys Dutch firm

SELECT APPOINTMENTS (Holdings), the UK temporary staff and recruitment company, has acquired Staff Planning, a group of four personnel agencies based in The Netherlands, for £8.1 million. The acquisition follows Select's purchase of Skillco Human Resources Management, another Dutch business, earlier this month. Staff Planning earned pre-tax profits of £1.12 million on turnover of £10.03 million in 1995; the company's net assets were £1.86 million at December 31.

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BPTR4 05

☐ Not all sacked executives deserve a payoff ☐ Fraud squads prepare for business ☐ Restaurant chain rakes in the dough

Limited liability bosses

☐ GO INTO your boss's office and punch him or her, hard, on the nose. Go on, do it. Then see if you get a year's money or a quick ejection by a security gorilla. This is because your behaviour constitutes a sacking offence.

Now go and lose a couple of hundred million of your boss's money. Again, the sack beckons, and you may be lucky to avoid a few years inside. Don't hang around too long arguing about compensation either. But if you happen to be in charge of the department where those millions were lost, you are in a different category, it seems. Defeat in a fiercely contested takeover bid might also not be the disaster it at first seems.

Let us go back to basic principles. The sack is the sack; compensation for loss of office is quite different. The two can be simply distinguished by the concept of blame. Those 11 fund managers from Barclays who got the bullet earlier this week were in the wrong place at the wrong time. Their jobs disappeared, but no blame attached to them, so they were compensated with an average of a year's money each.

The five men thrown out of Morgan Grenfell Asset Management yesterday went because a subordinate dropped a few hundred million. He has already been dismissed. They received compensation, in the form of their contracts being paid off. But blame should attach to them for two reasons.

For the first, one might borrow the legal concept of strict liability; some criminal offences are such that there is no need to prove any intent to commit them: their mere commission is enough for prosecution. Some offences at work, too: being in charge of a department where so serious an error takes place means some blame attaches to you. Ditto for the compliance officer, in charge of internal policing.

The second reason has to do with what the five should have known. Everyone in fund management knew that Peter Young, the man who actually dropped all those millions, was a high-flyer who appeared able to bring in amazing returns from unpromising raw material. Such a man should have been watched far more carefully than the run-of-the-mill fund manager; the blame attaches to the five because he wasn't.

There is not much to be said about the £3 million that went to former BET boss John Clark, first because this was awarded by a High Court judge, and anyway, his lawyers are already upset about what appeared in this column on the subject yesterday. Henry Sweetbaum of Wickes is having his pension paid in full, but he is handing back some earlier bonuses, so this probably constitutes a draw.

The worry is that the City, particularly in cases such as Morgan Grenfell and Barings, is blurring the distinction between loss of office for cause, that is the sack, and the just rewards for years of service terminated without fault. The high salaries enjoyed by the Morgan Grenfell five carried with them high responsiblities, and there should be no compensation for a failure to discharge those responsibilities properly.

This is important because of the growing disquiet about high City pay, in the light of Mary Walz, the former Barings director claiming a £500,000 bonus, and those new millionaires at Goldman Sachs. We must make a distinction between high pay in return for and dependent on future performance and hush money for those who have already failed. If we do not, the danger is that the deserving former are vilified along with the undeserving latter.



Predicting the next Maxwell

☐ I WOULD not wish to make anyone unduly nervous, but Britain's fraud squads are quietly gearing up for a busy period. Everyone knows that a new wave of corporate fraud is coming, but no one is quite sure when.

The argument runs thus. There are plenty of entrepreneurs out there who have pledged all their shares to the banks at current values against their debts. Any short-term correction for the stock market, and the value of the shares becomes less than the value of the loans. The banks want their money back. Companies go bust. The receivers sift through the wreckage, and a fresh batch of rogues is flushed out.

Witness the last round of disasters: Polly Peck, Maxwell, the Bank of Credit and Commerce International (BCCI). Many frauds rely on circular flows of money — sums spiralling round a "black hole" of ever-increasing proportions. BCCI was the classic example: monies shuttling around between New York, London, and the Caymans. But it need not involve billions. Wallace Duncan Smith, a relatively unknown City merchant banker, succeeded in running up debts of £100 million before he was rumbled. It took the recession to expose him.

Predicting the next Maxwell is more difficult, although potential Cap'n Bobs are undoubtedly out there. One enduring theme is the personality involved: arrogant, supremely self-confident, and fond of luxury. There are plenty of those in business and the City, and a recession would see some floundering. Not all of them know how to swim either.

Piling it high on PizzaExpress price

☐ THE genius who worked out that a flat slab of dough, a smear of tomato paste and a scattering of dried-up cheese, pepper and salami could be sold as a square meal deserves a place in catering history. From this beginning grew a monstrous regiment of pizza parlours, among them one of the stock market successes of the decade.

The share price chart of PizzaExpress is as sharp as its products are flat. A placing took place at 40p in early 1993; yesterday, investors' appetites were still sharp for another round of shares at 475p. This placing and expansion will take the group to 120 outlets, as against 250 to 300 before the market is saturated.

The share price performance has little to do with the merits of the menu or even strict financial criteria. Investors, a quarter of them American, have been betting on two things, the track record of Luke Johnson, the whiz-kid chairman, and the belief that he will one day lose interest and sell out.

Each PizzaExpress branch is now valued by the stock market at more than £2 million apiece, extraordinarily high for leasehold properties, but then, look at some of the daft prices being paid for businesses such as Café Pelican and the Tom Cobleigh pub chain this autumn. Further expansion, once that saturation point is reached, would be either on the Continent or into another restaurant or pub brand, both of them distinctly untested markets. More likely, Mr Johnson will find a buyer well before this.

Institutional power

☐ NOW the dust has settled on the Refuge-United Friendly merger, shareholders in the former owe a vote of thanks to the three institutions, led by Perpetual, that threw a handful of grit into the works before the initial terms could be agreed. The technical issue of orphan assets was way above the heads of most investors, who would probably have voted the deal through. Instead, the right set of shareholders will at least benefit from any eventual value.



Sir Roger Hurn, left, with Keith Butler-Wheelhouse, who is to take over as chief executive next month

Smiths favours US over Europe for defence

By Paul Durman

SIR ROGER HURN, chairman and chief executive of Smiths Industries, yesterday expressed doubts that the shake-up of the European defence and aerospace industries would produce a champion capable of challenging the leading American companies.

With a stock market value of more than £2.3 billion, Smiths is big enough to strengthen its aerospace business by taking over one of Europe's poorly performing, state-owned defence companies. However, Sir Roger believes that Smiths is likely to find "more interesting and perhaps more realistic" opportunities in the US.

He said that consolidation in Europe was "fraught with very serious territorial and political differences". He was sceptical about the prospects of a successful outcome.

Smiths, which also has businesses in medical instruments and ventilation, was reporting annual pre-tax profits of £165 million, a 19 per cent increase. Sir Roger, who will end 15 years as chief executive next month, when he hands over to Keith Butler-Wheelhouse, said: "We had a super year. All three of our business groups improved their profits."

Earnings per share rose 19 per cent to 36.6p. A final dividend of 10.6p, to be paid on January 8, will lift the total payout to 16.2p, up 12.5 per cent.

Smiths is upbeat about prospects. It is benefiting from a strong revival in orders for new aircraft. Smiths makes several hundred thousand pounds worth of instrumentation for each of Boeing's 737s and 777s.

The group's sales grew 12 per cent to just over £1 billion. Helped by acquisitions, the industrial division, which includes Vent-Axia fans, increased profits 32 per cent to £49.7 million. Medical systems increased profits 16 per cent to £73.1 million, with margins rising to 24 per cent. The aerospace arm made £45.3 million, a 12 per cent rise.

Nick Cunningham, a BZW analyst, described the results as "outstandingly good, as expected". The City expects Smiths to make more than £190 million this year.

Sir Roger will continue as Smiths's chairman but he insisted that Mr Butler-Wheelhouse "will be the boss and I won't be". Sir Roger is already a non-executive director of ICI and Glaxo Wellcome, but he expects Smiths to remain his principal business activity.

Sir Roger said: "Last year was not a flash in the pan, any more than any of the previous years have been. I have confidence for the future growth in sales, profits, earnings per share and dividends in the years ahead."

Tempus, page 30

Time Warner loses $91m in third quarter

From Richard Thomson in New York

TIME WARNER, the world's biggest media group, reported a $91 million loss for the third quarter, days after it completed its merger with Turner Broadcasting Systems, the cable television company.

The loss, which compared with net losses of $141 million last year, resulted mainly from large interest payments on massive outstanding debt. Losses for the first nine months of the year amount to $250 million. However, Time Warner said that its underlying operations had improved, with earnings before interest and tax rising by 32 per cent to $964 million.

Gerald Levin, chairman, said Time Warner must reduce its huge debt burden.

Bigger slice for PizzaExpress

By Noel Fung

PIZZAEXPRESS is to raise £25.5 million through a share placing to finance the purchase of 33 restaurants, enlarging its pool of company-owned restaurants.

The outlets, comprising 32 PizzaExpress franchised restaurants and an independent restaurant in London, are expected to bring in £20 million in turnover and £4 million in operating profit.

About 5.68 million new shares will be placed with investors in Britain and America at 475p a share, a 10 per cent discount to yesterday's closing price of 532½p.

The acquisition will increase PizzaExpress's company-owned restaurants to 120. Company-owned restaurants enjoy a higher profit margin in excess of 20 per cent, whereas the franchiseed ones yield only 4 per cent of turnover as royalty income to PizzaExpress. The number is still a far from the company's target of 250 to 300 in the UK. It plans to open 25 new company-owned restaurants each year and will expand its overseas coverage through franchising.

In 1993, the company decided to curtail the opening of new franchised restaurants in favour of company-owned ones and the latest purchase reinforces this strategy.

The chain's successful formula helped to boost its annual pre-tax profit to £10.2 million in the year to June, a 54 per cent improvement on the previous year. This is the second time since its February 1993 flotation that it has raised funds. It raised £3.5 million in September 1995 through an institutional placing.

Pennington, this page

Wellington merger shareout

WELLINGTON Underwriting, the largest managing agency at Lloyd's of London, has confirmed details of its planned merger with Wellington Underwriting Holdings (WU Holdings), supplier of underwriting capital to Wellington syndicates (Jon Ashworth writes).

WU Holdings shareholders will receive 36.6 million new shares, about 55 per cent of the enlarged Wellington capital. They will also be entitled to deferred consideration linked to the extent to which the enlarged group exceeds earnings targets. Conditional on the offer, shareholders are expected to receive a 4p interim per Wellington share. A second interim of 27p per WU Holdings share will be paid to WU Holdings holders.

Record $686m for Ford

From Richard Thomson in New York

FORD, America's second largest carmaker, nearly doubled its profits in the third quarter to a record $686 million as bouyant US conditions offset deepening losses in Europe.

Losses on Ford UK and European operations grew from $330 million to $472 million, making by far the biggest contribution to the overall loss from overseas operations of $619 million.

The company said that new product development, such as the Ka small car that goes on sale next month, and high marketing costs in Europe had been largely to blame for the loss. Most product launches were now completed and the company could now concentrate on cutting costs in its loss-making operations.

The profit result is a 92 per cent rise on the $357 million earned by the company in the comparable period last year.

On Tuesday, General Motors, the largest carmaker, reported that profits had tripled to $1.3 billion.

Sales boost at WH Smith



Hardie: addressed investors

By Keith Rodgers

SHARES in WH Smith climbed 19p to 474½p yesterday after the company reported a 4 per cent increase in sales for the four months to September 30.

However, some analysts remained cautious about longer-term prospects, with one suggesting that the recovery could take longer than expected.

Jeremy Hardie, chairman, told the annual meeting that like-for-like sales, excluding new stores, had increased 3 per cent. Weak markets affected music and video sales, but sales in other categories climbed 5 per cent. In August, WH Smith recorded a loss of £194.7 million for the year to June 1.

Sales at WH Smith Retail rose 2 per cent, while sales at Waterstone's increased 15 per cent. The company's US hotels and airports operation showed a 14 per cent rise.

Mr Hardie said performance was in line with expectations. Analysts are forecasting full-year pre-tax profits of between £115 and £130 million.

Jobs lost in Alexandra closure

By Keith Rodgers

ALEXANDRA Workwear, the supplier of workplace uniforms, is to close one of its factories in Scotland with the loss of up to 250 jobs as part of a £4 million restructuring.

The company reported a £724,000 pre-tax loss for the 28 weeks to August 17, against a £2.7 million profit the previous year, after incurring disposal costs of £508,000 and an exceptional cost of £2.5 million to cover the manufacturing reorganisation. The job cuts are to be by natural wastage over the next two years, after which the Coatbridge factory operations, currently employing 900 people, will be merged into the Bothwell Park site, near Glasgow.

Alexandra said it will also incur a £1 million exceptional cost in the coming 12 months as it diversifies product-sourcing, reappraises product strategy and extends its European distributor network.

Trading profit before exceptional items fell from £2.9 million to £2.4 million, on turnover virtually static at £35.4 million. The interim dividend, payable on December 6, is unchanged at 2.5p.



STOCK MARKET  MICHAEL CLARK

Allied Domecq action revives talk of bid

MORE than £260 million was added to the stock market value of **Allied Domecq** as the share price shrugged off recent weakness to end the session 25½p higher at 482½p.

By the close of business almost four million shares had changed hands in a market where traders will normally quote a price in 50,000 shares at a time. Once again, this has led to revived talk about a bid for the company from Seagrams, the giant north American drinks group. But much of the action in the shares appeared to be taking place on the traded options market before the expiry of the October series.

Brokers reported plenty of activity in the January 500p series where 1,350 contracts, equivalent to 1.3 million shares, were completed. It is believed much of the demand stemmed from investors rolling over their positions from the open-ended October 460p series where 141 contracts were recorded.

It may be that some City speculators are pinning their hopes on a bid from Seagrams emerging before too long. It could also be that some fund managers see better times ahead for the group. The shares have been under a cloud of late, trading well below their year's high of 556p, as the group attempts to complete its restructuring.

The rest of the equity market ran into the buffers as shares came off the boil after their recent record-breaking run. Market-makers called prices lower from the outset as they tried to square their positions before this week's options expiry. There was little genuine selling pressure, just light profit-taking, and this was reflected in the low volume of 649 million shares.

The FT-SE 100 index was further unsettled by the latest unemployment numbers and average earnings. It finished just above its low for the day in spite of another early fall by the Dow Jones industrial average in New York. The FT-SE 100 closed down 26.4 points at 4,024.4.

Tate & Lyle fell 13½p to 483p with the group facing an investigation by US authorities into corn syrup prices. **Cadbury Schweppes** was another weak market, losing 2½p at 520p on the back of this week's figures from Coca-Cola showing disppointing volume in Europe. Cadbury, at present, continues to bottle and distribute Coca-Cola products. Revived talk of a bid from Nestlé boosted **Dalgety** 4p to 316½p.

A positive trading statement from **WH Smith** gave the shares a much needed boost with a rise of 19p at 474½p. The group has been busily restructuring its business and reports that its performance so far is up to expectations. Sales were up 4 per cent in the first four months of the year to September.

Brokers gave a warm reception to full-year figures from **Smiths Industries**, the aerospace and medical products group, after weighing in with pre-tax profits up from £138 million to £170.4 million. The price rose 12p to 803½p.

British Aerospace rose 19p to £11.32½ expecting to benefit from a missiles joint venture with Lagadère, the French defence group. But the move would be bad news for **GEC**, which is linked to CSF Thompson. GEC fell 11½p to 386½p.

Prudential Corporation fell 9p to 474p in spite of publishing an impressive set of new business figures. Full-year figures in line with expectations and news of continuing expansion plans at **DFS Furniture** failed to cut much ice with the City, leaving the price 22p lower on the day at 514½p. The price was undermined by the news that Sir Graham Kirkham's children are thinking of selling a significant proportion of their 22 per cent stake in the company.

Fitness First, the health club operator, made an impressive debut on the Alternative Investment Market after a placing by Henderson Crosthwaite, the broker, at 80p. The shares started at 89½p and touched 92½p before ending the day at 90½p.

Bridport Gundry rose 7p to 149½p as it succeeded overnight in doubling the size of its stock market capitalisation to about £15 million. It has made no less than three acquisitions financed by a three-for-four rights issue at 130p intended to raise £10 million. Last year the group raised pre-tax profits from £1.3 million to £1.45 million.

The news that **Alexander Workwear** had plunged into the red at the half-year stage with losses of £724,000, compared with a surplus of £2.7 million for the corresponding period, left the shares 15p lower at 105½p. **Innovative Technology** seemed unruffled by news of increased losses, with the price jumping 16p to 156½p as it made encouraging noises about prospects.

Reduced losses at **Blockleys**, the building materials group, failed to do much for the price, which eased 1½p to 49p. The group said the period to June was the worst ever experienced by the brick industry.

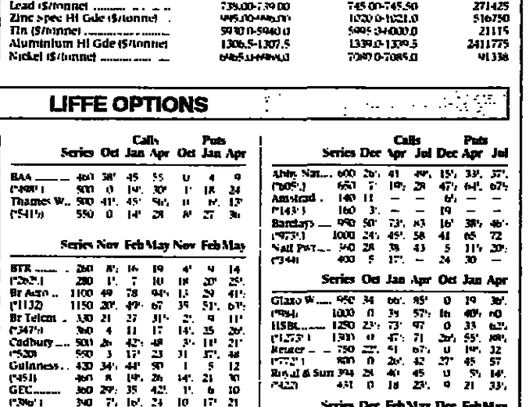
Hard on the heels of disappointing figures this week from **Highland Distilleries**, up 3½p at 329½p, comes news of another distiller finding the going difficult. **Burn Stewart Distillers** saw pre-tax profits fall from £3.95 million to £1.01 million. The shares fell 7½p to 74p.



Fitness First made an impressive debut on AIM

Tesco climbed 5p to 326½p as NatWest Securities took a more optimistic view of prospects and upgraded its recommendation from a "hold" to "add". It also increased its pre-tax profit forecast for the current year by £10 million to £755 million and for 1997 by £30 million to £850 million.

ALLIED DOMECQ: BROKERS LEAVE THEIR OPTIONS OPEN



☐ **GILT-EDGED:** Falls of more than £1 were recorded among longer dated issues as the market followed the lead of other overseas bond markets. The subsequent fall in unemployment and the higher than expected average earnings only served to accelerate the losses. The December series of the long gilt tumbled £1 3/32 to finish at £109 11/16 as a total of 117,000 contracts were completed. In longs, Treasury 8 per cent 2015 lost £1 13/32 at £100 15/16, while at the shorter end, Treasury 8 per cent 2000 was £19/32 worse off at £103 31/32.

☐ **NEW YORK:** Wall Street stocks were weak in early trading as the market adjusted to a rally that had taken the Dow Jones industrial average over 6,000. At midday, the index was down 26.46 points to 5,978.32.

MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday):		
Dow Jones	5978.32	(-26.46)
S&P Composite	700.26	(-2.31)
Tokyo:		
Nikkei Average	21397.19	(-32.74)
Hong Kong:		
Hang Seng	12396.18	(-94.52)
Amsterdam:		
EOE Index	590.48	(-1.97)
Sydney:		
AO	2365.0	(-1.2)
Frankfurt:		
DAX	2714.90	(-13.55)
Singapore:		
Straits	2071.26	(+10.78)
Brussels:		
General	9895.46	(+14.86)
Paris:		
CAC-40	2158.52	(-9.76)
Zurich:		
SKA Gen	790.60	(-4.60)
London:		
FT 30	2855.6	(-10.5)
FT 100	4024.4	(-26.4)
FTSE Mid 250	4438.2	(-10.7)
FTSE 350	2002.0	(-11.3)
FTSE Eurotrack 100	1760.99	(-4.45)
FT All-Share	1975.89	(-10.29)
FT Non Financials	2070.17	(-9.69)
FT Fixed Interest	116.15	(-0.9)
FT Govt Secs	94.29	(-0.50)
Bargains		39855
SEAQ Volume		684.8m
USM (Datastrm)	203.04	(+0.58)
US$	1.5848	(+0.0023)
German Mark	2.4368	(-0.0010)
Exchange Index	88.7	(+0.1)
Bank of England official close (4pm)		
£/ECU		1.2688
£/SDR		1.1013
RPI	153.8 Sep (2.1%) Jan 1987=100	
RPIX	153.6 Sep (2.9%) Jan 1987=100	

RECENT ISSUES

AEA Technology	333½	- 1
Airtech	75	...
Brunner Mond	170	...
Charles Taylor	161½	...
Cruden Bay	80	+ ½
Deltron Electm	160½	...
Elec Retail Sys	185½	- 9
Eurasia Mining	315	...
Fitness First	90½	...
GT Chile Grwth	256¾	- 03¼
Grosvenor Land	15¾	...
Hartstone 8% Cv	120½	...
Imperial Tobacco	386	- 5
Internet Tech	60½	...
Interroute Tele	167½	...
Lavendon	157½	...
Mears Group	12¼	...
Oriental Resturnts	205½	...
Personal Number	84½	...
Polydoc	69½	...
Shallbane	139½	...
Thistle Hotels (170)	171½	...
Ultra Electronics	299½	- 1
Weeks Group	7¼	...

RIGHTS ISSUES

Prism Rail n/p (240)	125	+ 5

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:	
Haynes Pub	307½p (+20p)
Tottenhm Hot	489½p (+27p)
Smith WH	474½p (+19p)
HTV Group	379p (+12½p)
Man Utd	550p (+17½p)
Scot TV	799½p (+22p)
Caird Gp	667½p (+15p)
FALLS:	
Etam	161½p (-13p)
REXAM	364p (-12p)
Tate & Lyle	483p (-13½p)
ICI	801½p (-21p)
Gen Accident	727p (-17½p)
DFS Furniture	514½p (-12p)
Siebe	941½p (-20p)
Next	570p (-11½p)
Stand Chart	680½p (-13p)
Corn Union	653½p (-12p)
GUS	611½p (-11p)
Abbey Nat	608p (-9½p)
DCS Gp	227½p (-10p)

Closing Prices Page 35

TEMPUS

French dressing

THE Tories are timid when it comes to handing over goodies to the private sector. In France, they do it with flair and yesterday flair was worth about Fr11 billion, the amount of public money to be given to state-owned Thomson when it is transferred to Lagardère, the private defence contractor.

More to the point, when the French Prime Minister announced he was shovelling huge dollops of public money into the defence electronics group, there was no embarrassed shuffling of feet. He berated the socialists for failing to pump-prime the nationalised industry sufficiently in the past.

Brussels will no doubt look at the cash injection, but this affair is a sacred cow to more than one government, being about the greater European good of standing up to the powerful US defence combines. Combining Lagardère, which owns Matra, and Thomson will create a strong competitor in missiles, not least because British Aerospace has recently signed a missile joint venture with Matra.

British Aerospace is feeling good about the news, but shares in its rival, GEC, were depressed as the latter has been excluded from the next phase of Anglo-French defence co-operation. GEC's partner, Alcatel, the power and telecoms group, was the losing bidder for Thomson. GEC's self-interest is understandable, but there are reasons to question whether the French Government has made the right choice. To exclude GEC's Marconi electronics business makes little sense if the objective is to create a business capable of competing with the likes of America's Lockheed Martin. In addition, GEC is not short of cash.

Smiths Ind

SMITHS INDUSTRIES is well known for its ability to beat City profit forecasts with unfailing regularity. With that in mind, investors should note that Sir Roger Hurn, chief executive and the architect of the company's success, was brimming with optimism yesterday as he prepared to retire to the chairman's office.

The immediate cause for optimism is Smiths' aerospace division — last year the smallest contributor to profits.

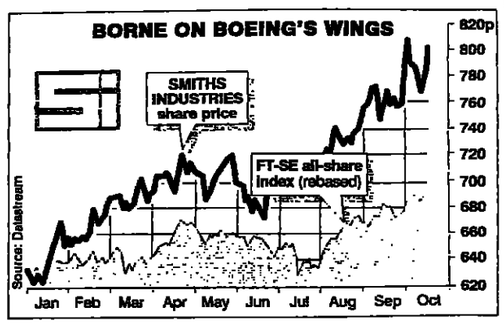
New plane orders mean that Boeing's production of 737s and 777s is set to double next year, and Smiths will have up to $500,000 of instrumentation in every airliner. As the upturn in aerospace continues, there is scope for a substantial gain in margin.

The medical systems division continues to defy the squeeze on the cost of healthcare, and is now making a margin of 24 per cent. Even if this were to slip, the business has plenty of export opportunities, particularly in emerging economies such as South Africa.

Investors can also rely on Smiths' proven skill at finding aquisitons that boost earnings. The company has spent £475 million in the past six years.

Of course, the shares are expensive. Up another 12p to 803½p yesterday, they now trade on more than 19 times the current year's earnings. But Smiths' record and its prospects make it easy to justify the rating.

BORNE ON BOEING'S WINGS



Wickes

WICKES provides investors with yet another cautionary tale about the hollow men and the stuffed men of the accountancy profession. Wickes is writing off some £53 million of shareholders' funds because certain managers overstated the company's profits by booking rebates from suppliers before the money was earned. The allegation is that the misrepresentation was deliberate, that warnings signals were there to be seen, and that the company's auditors should have investigated.

Wickes is reserving its right to sue Arthur Andersen, its former auditor. Senior managers have been sacked and bonuses are to be returned, but investors who bought shares on the strength of the bogus profit record in the accounts may be left with no one to turn to. The "lost" funds were a fiction, created by management, endorsed by auditors and therefore, logically, the company has no right to be reimbursed, with the possible exception of dividends paid out of non-existent profits. That leaves investors with a share in a company facing drastic restructuring, a £10 million operating loss and the prospect of a big rights issue. They will be lucky if the stock trades at 50p.

In a just world, investors who relied on the "true and fair view" might have a claim against those who boast that "professional" has more meaning than a right to charge £300 per hour. However, the courts — also staffed by professionals — do not believe that accountants owe a duty of care to the likes of you and me. If it was found that they did, the floodgates would open. About time, too.

DFS Furniture

WHEN the family trusts bale out, it is reasonable to assume that a company's shares are close to the top of their range. DFS is no exception, and yesterday the company reported that Sir Graham Kirkham's children were to sell "a significant amount".

The results yesterday showed impressive growth, with turnover up 27 per cent to £184.8 million and like-for-like sales up 10 per cent in the past financial year and continuing at that rate. Moreover, the apparent success of the three new London stores and the expansion plans suggest that growth is not stopping.

Deducting the 10p special dividend announced yesterday, the 22p slide in the shares was not as steep as it seemed at first glance, suggesting the market has not lost faith yet. But, with £37 million pre-tax profits forecast for next year, the shares trade on a p/e of 22 times, well above the sector's average 18 times. Better value retail stocks can be found.

EDITED BY CARL MORTISHED

COMMODITIES

LIFFE

COCOA

Dec	973-972	Mar	1065-1060
Mar	1002-1001	May	1075-1070
May	1015-1014	Jul	1080-1070
Jul	1030-1029	Sep	1095-1075
Sep	1044-1041		
Dec	1054-1051		Volume: 4760

ROBUSTA COFFEE ($)

Nov	1520-1514	Jul	1382-1380
Jan	1435-1434	Sep	1388-1380
Mar	1404-1403	Nov	1400-1395
May	1394-1383		Volume: 4515

WHITE SUGAR (FOB)

Reuters		Aug	319.0-18.7
Spot: 328.3		Oct	311.0-10.6
Dec	320.0-19.4	Dec	314.0-13.6
Mar	317.0-16.2	Mar	316.5-16.0
May	317.0-16.5		Volume: 1497

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION

Average fatstock prices at representative markets on October 15

(p/kg lw)	Pig	Sheep	Cattle
GB	106.73	115.77	94.34
(+/-)	+4.21	+2.99	+0.72
England&Wales	97.88	116.32	93.49
(+/-)	+4.80	+3.28	+0.65
(%)	n/c	+0.9	+0.7
Scotland	109.50	113.59	97.10
(+/-)	+3.27	+1.40	+0.62
(%)	-7.0	-0.0	+0.6

ICIS-LOR (London 6.00pm)

CRUDE OILS ($/barrel FOB)

Brent Physical	24.50	-0.15
Brent 15 day (Nov)	24.45	-0.25
Brent 15 day (Dec)	23.90	-0.35
W Texas Intermediate (Nov)	24.85	-0.50
W Texas Intermediate (Dec)	24.55	-0.45

PRODUCTS ($/MT)

Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery)

	Bid	Offer
Premium Unld	236 (n/c)	240 (n/c)
Gasoil EEC	233 (-5)	234 (-6)
3.5 Fuel Oil	125 (+1)	127 (n/c)
Naphtha	232 (n/c)	235 (+1)

IPE FUTURES (GNI Ltd)

GAS OIL

Nov	227.50-27.75	Feb	207.25-07.50
Dec	222.25-22.50	Mar	198.50 SLR
Jan	215.75-16.00		Vol. 20045

BRENT (6.00pm)

Nov	24.85-24.90	Feb	22.48-22.50
Dec	23.88-23.90	Mar	n/a
Jan	23.18-23.20		Vol: 32438

GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

WHEAT (close £/t)		BARLEY (close £/t)	
Nov	98.50	Nov	97.00
Jan	100.50	Jan	98.75
Mar	101.75	Mar	100.00
May	103.65	May	101.25
Jul	105.00	Sep	94.50
	Volume: 677		Volume: 65

POTATO (£/t)

	Open	Close
Nov	unq	32.5
Mar		70.0
Apr	73.0	70.9
		Volume: 137

RUBBER (No 1 RSS Clf p/k)

Nov 83.50-84.00

BIFFEX (GNI Ltd $10/pt)

	High	Low	Close
Oct 96	1165	1140	1165
Nov 96	1270	1240	1270
Dec 96	1260	1231	1260
Jan 97	1276	1250	1275
Vol: 369 lots		Open Interest: 4246	
	Index 1096 +19		

(Official) (Volume prev day) — **LONDON METAL EXCHANGE** — **Rudolf Wolff**

	Cash:	3mth:	Vol:
Copper Gde A ($/tonne)	1959.0-1959.0	1969.0-1969.0	1893000
Lead ($/tonne)	739.00-739.00	745.00-745.50	271425
Zinc Spec Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1495.00-1496.00	1020.0-1021.0	516750
Tin ($/tonne)	5980.0-5980.0	5895.0-6000.0	21115
Aluminium Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1306.5-1307.5	1339.0-1339.5	2411775
Nickel ($/tonne)	6485.0-6490.0	7080.0-7085.0	91338

LIFFE OPTIONS

	Calls Series	Oct	Jan	Apr	Puts Oct	Jan	Apr
Allid Dom	460	16	28	35½	0	15¾	20½
(*476)	500	0	10½	18	24	41	44½
ASDA	110	2½	8	9½	0	3½	5½
(*112)	120	0	3	5	7½	9	11
Boots	600	42	50	63½	0	9½	12
(*642)	650	0	19	33	8	36	38
Br Airways	550	32	46	57½	0	9½	16½
(*562)	600	0	18½	30	15	51	59½
BP	650	25	43½	55	0	15½	22
(*675)	700	0	18½	31	25	48½	47½
Br Steel	180	7	12	16	0	6	9
(*157)	200	0	3½	7½	13	18½	20½
C & W	420	14	28	40	0	11	18
(*434)	460	0	10	21	26	33½	40
Cill	650	0	30½	40½	0	21½	37
(*650)	700	0	10	20	50	53½	70
ICI	900	1½	36	49½	0	28½	41
(*901)	950	0	15	27	48	55½	72
Land Sec	700	11	25½	39½	0	15½	20½
(*711)	750	0	8½	16	39	48½	50½
M & S	500	14	29½	41	0	8½	13½
(*519)	550	0	7	16½	31½	47	49½
Nat West	650	47	64½	71½	0	3	22
(*697)	700	0	12	41	3	26	46
Safeway plc	330	24	31	38½	0	5½	11
(*354)	360	0	13	21½	6	19	24
Sainsbury	330	28½	33	40	0	3½	8
(*358)	360	0	14½	21½	17	14½	18
Shell	1000	34	59½	74	0	11½	26
(*1014)	1050	0	28	43	16	31½	47½
Smkl Bch	785	1½	—	—	0	—	—
(*790)	834	0	—	—	47½	—	—
Storehse	300	7	—	—	0	—	—
(*302)	330	0	—	—	23	—	—
Trafalgar	50	0	—	—	0	—	—
(*50)	nil	0	—	—	10	—	—
Zeneca	1600	88½	149	166	0	28	50½
(*1689)	1700	0	86½	109	11½	67½	93

	Series	Nov	Feb	May	Nov	Feb	May
BAT Ind	420	80½	87½	97½	5½	10	22
(*442)	460	9	16	27	24	29	44
Vodafone	220	12	16	23	3	7	11
(*229)	240	3½	7	13½	13½	16½	21½

	Series	Nov	Feb	May	Nov	Feb	May
Grand Met	460	32	40½	47	2½	13	16
(*487)	500	7½	16	26½	18½	33	36
Ladbroke	300	10½	17	21	3	6½	10
(*318)	320	1	7	11½	14	17	21
Utd Bisc	300	17	24	27	1	4½	7½
(*315)	320	4	12	18½	8½	13½	17

October 16. Total Vol: 6625 Call: 3269 Put: 3356
FTSE Call: 13528 Put: 9689
*Underlying security price.

	Calls Series	Oct	Jan	Apr	Puts Oct	Jan	Apr
BAA	460	38½	45	55	0	4	9
(*488)	500	0	14½	30½	11	16½	24
Thames W	500	41½	45½	56½	0	9½	13½
(*541)	550	0	14½	28½	49½	57½	58½

	Series	Nov	Feb	May	Nov	Feb	May
BTR	280	8½	16½	19½	4½	9½	16½
(*282)	280	11½	17	20	1½	4½	8½
Br Aero	1100	69½	78½	94½	15½	29½	41½
(*1132)	1150	20½	49½	67½	35½	51½	67½
Br Telcm	330	21½	27½	31½	2½	9½	11½
(*347)	360	4½	11½	17½	14½	25½	26½
Cadbury	500	26½	42½	48½	3½	11½	21½
(*520)	550	3½	17½	25½	31½	37½	46½
Gallaness	420	34½	44½	50½	1½	5½	12½
(*451)	460	8½	19½	26½	14½	21½	30½
GEC	360	29½	35½	42½	1½	6½	10½
(*386)	390	7½	16½	24½	10½	17½	21½
Hanson	320	8½	12½	—	19½	24½	—
(*329)	330	1½	4½	—	11½	14½	—
LASMO	200	19½	24½	28½	1½	3½	9½
(*217)	220	5½	12½	19½	4½	10½	13½
Lucas Varity	240	17½	25½	30½	3½	7½	11½
(*258)	260	6½	14½	20½	11½	16½	20½
Pilkington	180	9½	11½	16½	5½	9½	11½
(*191)	200	2½	4½	8½	21½	22½	24½
Prudential	460	22½	35½	42½	6½	14½	23½
(*473)	500	4½	17½	25½	29½	35½	45½
Redland	460	30½	34½	42½	14½	22½	31½
(*461)	500	1½	10½	16½	45½	49½	56½
R-Royce	240	17½	23½	28½	2½	7½	11½
(*254)	260	6½	12½	17½	11½	16½	20½
Tesco	300	29½	37½	42½	1½	4½	9½
(*326)	330	8½	17½	24½	9½	15½	22½
Williams	360	9½	—	—	3½	—	—
(*361)	390	1½	—	—	29½	—	—

FTSE INDEX (*4022)

3900 3950 4000 4050 4100 4150

Calls				Puts		
Oct	132	82	55	4½	9½	17½
Nov	155	113	75½	45	23½	30½
Dec	187	142½	111½	74½	45½	56½
Jan	209½	168½	132	100	71½	84
Jun	275½	—	212	—	163½	—
Puts						
Oct	1	3	3½	30	80	130
Nov	13½	22	45½	56½	88	130
Dec	30½	41½	57½	78	107	141
Jan	46½	59	77½	96½	123½	153½
Jun	107½	—	143	—	192	—

	Calls Series	Dec	Apr	Jul	Puts Dec	Apr	Jul
Abbey Nat	600	26½	41	49½	15½	33½	37½
(*605)	650	7½	19½	28	47½	64½	67½
Allied Dom	460	18	31½	—	6½	—	—
(*483)	500	0	14½	—	19	—	—
Barclays	900	50½	73½	83	16½	38½	46½
(*973)	1000	24½	45½	58	41	65	72
Natl Pwr	360	28	38	43	5	11½	20½
(*344)	400	5	17½	—	24	30	—

	Series	Dec	Apr	Jul	Dec	Apr	Jul
Glaxo W	950	34	66½	85½	0	19	36½
(*984)	1000	0	39	57½	16	40½	n/a
HSBC	1250	23½	73½	97	0	33	62½
(*1273)	1300	0	47½	71	26½	55½	69½
Reuter	750	22½	51	67½	0	19½	32
(*772)	800	0	26½	42	27½	45	57
Royal & Sun	394	28	40	45	0	5½	14½
(*422)	441	0	18	23½	0	21	33½

	Series	Dec	Feb	May	Dec	Feb	May
Blue Circ	390	28½	36½	42	5	9½	16
(*396)	420	11	19½	25	16½	22½	30½

	Series	Oct	Feb	May	Oct	Feb	May
Kingfisher	650	3½	39½	50	0	25½	37
(*653)	700	0	17½	27½	46½	54½	66

	Series	Oct	Dec	Mar	Oct	Dec	Mar
Unilever	1300	46½	59	82½	0	12	24
(*1346)	1350	0	27	51½	3½	32	44½

	Series	Dec	Mar	Jun	Dec	Mar	Jun
Br Gas	180	15½	19½	22	1½	3½	7
(*191)	200	4½	10	12½	10	12½	17
Dixons	550	28	42½	53½	15	24½	30
(*558)	600	8	20½	31	46	53	58
Enl Group	1250	62	90	116	21½	39½	49½
(*1278)	1300	34½	62½	89	44	62	72½
Tarmac	90	2½	6½	10½	11	15	17
(*91)	100	2	6	10	10	11½	13½
Hillsdwn	180	9	13½	15½	4½	7½	12
(*189)	200	1½	5	7	17½	19½	25
Lonrho	160	11	14½	17½	3	6½	8
(*166)	180	2½	5½	9½	15	18	19½
Scots	90	8½	—	—	1	—	—
(*88)	90	2½	—	—	5	—	—
Thorn EMI	1000	70	—	—	21	—	—
(*1057)	1100	25½	—	—	73	—	—
Tomkins	260	17½	22½	27½	6	10½	12½
(*269)	280	7½	12½	18	16	20½	23
Lloyds TSB	980	23	33	37½	6½	18	21½
(*987)	420	6	13½	23½	21½	34	38
Sun Alli	294	20	28½	—	4	9	—
(*287)	320	5	11½	—	18	24½	—

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Period	Open	High	Low	Sett	Vol
FTSE 100	Dec 96	4071.0	4077.0	4047.0	4055.0	14740
Previous open interest: 62528	Mar 97	4070.0	4070.0	4070.0	4068.0	6
FTSE 250	Dec 96				4471.0	0
Previous open interest: 3571	Mar 97					0
Three Month Sterling	Dec 96	93.99	94.00	93.93	93.94	17485
Previous open interest: 441404	Mar 97	93.85	93.87	93.75	93.77	34794
	Jun 97	93.62	93.65	93.49	93.50	26156
Three Mth Euro Yen	Mar 97	99.29	99.29	99.28	99.28	302
	Jun 97	99.12	99.12	99.11	99.11	790
Three Mth Euro DM	Dec 96	96.86	96.87	96.84	96.84	21635
Previous open interest: 1187953	Mar 97	96.85	96.87	96.82	96.82	20329
Long Gilt	Dec 96	110-26	110-26	109-16	109-22	118249
Previous open interest: 162543	Mar 97	108-24	108-24	108-24	108-26	14
Japanese Govmt Bond	Dec 96	122.64	122.68	122.52	122.52	4090
	Mar 97	121.61	121.65	121.57	121.52	386
German Gov Bd Bund	Dec 96	99.60	99.71	99.11	99.24	203292
Previous open interest: 258178	Mar 97	98.58	98.61	98.28	98.24	1040
Three month ECU	Dec 96	95.89	95.89	95.81	95.83	1057
Previous open interest: 24367	Mar 97	95.93	95.92	95.80	95.83	1340
Euro Swiss Franc	Dec 96	98.28	98.29	98.14	98.16	19300
Previous open interest: 88567	Mar 97	98.25	98.26	98.10	98.14	14469
Italian Govmt Bond	Dec 96	123.15	123.35	121.70	121.87	94028
Previous open interest: 83772	Mar 97	122.00	122.00	121.20	121.12	254

MONEY RATES (%)

Base Rates: Clearing Banks 5%. Finance Hse 6

Discount Market Loans: O/night high: 5¾ Low 5¾ Week fixed: 5⅝

Treasury Bills (Dis): Buy: 2 mth 5⅛ ; 3 mth 5⅛ . Sell: 2 mth 5⅛ ; 3 mth: 5⅛ .

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Prime Bank Bills (Dis):	5⅝-5⅛	5⅛-5⅛	5⅛-5⅛	5⅛-5⅛	
Sterling Money Rates:	5⅛-5⅛	5⅛-5⅛	5⅛-5⅛	6⅛-6	6⅛-6⅛
Interbank:	5⅛-5⅛	5⅛-5⅛	5⅛-5⅛	6⅛-6	6⅛-6⅛

Overnight: open 5⅛, close 5⅛ .

Local Authority Deps:	5⅛	n/a	5⅛	5⅛
Sterling CDs:	5⅛-5⅛	5⅛-5⅛	5⅛-5⅛	6⅛-6
Dollar CDs:	5.29	n/a	5.43,	5.52
Building Society CDs:	5⅛-5⅛	5⅛-5⅛	5⅛-5⅛	6⅛-5⅛

EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS (%)

Currency	7 day	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth	Call
Dollar:	5⅛-4⅛	5⅛-5⅛	5⅛-5⅛	5⅛-5⅛	5-4
Deutschemark:	3⅛-2⅛	3⅛-2⅛	3⅛-3	3

Brussels should write off the fossils of the future



GRAHAM SEARJEANT

Hardly anything in business lasts for ever, except for principles that remain pristine through lack of use. So there have to be rules that put some realistic value on not-so-new assets to help managers, bankers and investors assess the state of companies whose operations they cannot know well at first hand.

Accounting rules are not immune from wear. They too have a limited life. High inflation makes nonsense of measures of profit or worth. New finance or trading techniques may not be covered. Smart operators, goaded by fund mangers and abetted by compliant auditors, prise open loopholes and exploit weaknesses. Soon the rules stop being passive measures. They start distorting behaviour over anything from pensions to takeovers, hinder efficiency and hold back economic progress.

Experience suggests that rules should be patched up over 15 to 20 years, then be written off and replaced. The Accounting Standards Board, set up to make rules that command general support, is about to replace its own first Financial Reporting Standard after four years. By contrast, accounting rules developed by the European Commission are set in concrete through EU directives and built into the foundations via national company law. These seemingly immutable laws increasingly stymie reform at home, and growth of international accounting standards.

Three years ago, Sir David Tweedie, the board's chairman, brought out a paper that aimed to deal with nonsense property values left by the price spiral and subsequent slump. It was shelved. So were many valuations. On the unholy nostrum that rises are permanent but falls temporary, many top 100 companies still carry properties in their books at valuations made five or more years ago, near the height of the boom. Those who played fair and paid the price want Sir David to show their recalcitrant rivals a yellow card.

Today, the 1993 ideas resurface as another discussion paper: *Measurement of Tangible Fixed Assets*. It allows companies to carry assets at cost less accumulated annual depreciation, or to revalue them at today's trade prices, which allow for land values and market demand as well as wear and tear. If they are revalued, all assets in one class — such as offices or hotels — should be carried in the balance sheet at up-to-date market prices, adjusted systematically each year between full independent valuations at least every five years.

As inflation abates and city centres lose their dominance, more properties will depreciate in value, whichever route is chosen. The trouble is that an EU Company Law Directive makes accounting depreciation compulsory, echoing cautious German traditions. The directive stems from proposals made more than 25 years ago. But instead of being phased out, they are enshrined in the Companies Act 1985.

Those who follow accounting reforms will find this familiar. Often, the best solutions are ruled out because they are illegal and it would take decades to change EU-inspired law. In extreme cases, standard setters invoke the "true and fair override" to ignore a law that leads to nonsense. To placate City users of accounts, the board would make properties held as investments such an exception. They must by law be regularly valued.

The rest would have to write down values annually and charge depreciation against profits — even if they also revalue at market prices. If a property's market value stays the same, the company still has to carry an annual charge against profits. Equally, an equal upward revaluation cannot be offset against this charge. It counts as an unrealised gain, somewhere else in the accounts. If a property is revalued upwards, the charge rises and profits fall.

Trade will be distorted. Rent your property from an investor instead of owning it creates more accounting profit, because you would have to charge depreciation but the investor does not. If EU-inspired laws stymie sensible reforms, it might be better to devote the effort to changing the way the EU legislates.

This is not an argument about whether laws should be made at EU or national level, but about how to set common regulations for a single market — not who but how. What holds for accounting standards is as likely to make sense for rules on takeovers, pension investment, dairy hygiene, potato varieties, sewage effluent, electrical fittings or fishing.

Unlike the City Takeover Panel, Sir David saw that the best domestic efforts will founder unless standards mesh with those devised by the voluntary International Accounting Standards Committee, or which are forced on top companies by the combined weight of international stock exchanges and investors. Such rules are flexible and can cope with change. But they cannot be left to private cartels.

Most regulation should be contracted out. The Commission should aim for simple directives that traders must follow standards set by a body it nominates and whose members and outpourings it has a right to approve. The UK's Financial Reporting Council is a good model for rules that need cover only the EU. The Anglo-Saxon dominated IASC offers a better but harder example for issues where EU boundaries count for little. The Commission has rightly rejected an EU Accounting Standards Board in favour of observer status at the IASC. It might be offered more.

Would that officials were so enlightened on internal market matters. Most Brussels-bashing stems from its focus on detailed legislation and its consequent failure to manage Union affairs efficiently. Yet more central directives are on the way, on anything from takeovers to lead pipes to meet the perceived needs of the 1990s. They will become the bureaucratic fossils that trip us up in the next century.

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

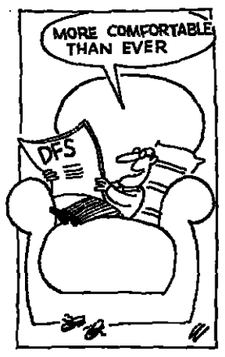
Knives out for the cutlery

NICE to know the nation's finances are in such safe and honest hands. Hot off the press comes the first issue of the Treasury's Accommodation and Security Team bulletin with the eye-catching headline "cutlery and crockery amnesty extended". It continues: "The restaurant is again running very low on cutlery and crockery. If you see unattended coffee flasks, plates, cups and saucers, etc anywhere in the building, please call the restaurant and they will collect it — *no questions asked!*" Other gems: "Graffiti ... in the workplace is unacceptable." More gems anon.

Touchlined

WE HEAR that Stephen Hinchliffe, the former Facia boss, is taking a back seat at Sheffield United Football Club. Having, at one point, been vice-chairman, Hinchliffe slipped back to being a mere director earlier this year and has now resigned from the board. Watch closely to see what happens to his 15 per cent stake in the club, which is frozen by the Mareva injunction taken out by Price Waterhouse, administrators of Hinchliffe's collapsed footwear empire.

THE "silver ferret" is on the move. Sean Lippell, head of corporate law at Leeds-based solicitors Pinsent Curtis, was given the title for his prematurely grey hair and nose for a deal. Now he is sniffing elsewhere, as he is to join lawyers Garrett & Co. the lawyers owned by Arthur Andersen.



Red Adair

REGULATIONS from Brussels must have become so complex that even the Europhile CBI is perplexed by them. Adair Turner, the Director-General, was telling an Anglo-German business conference yesterday, about the sexual harassment directive under the Social Chapter being at odds with the principle of subsidiarity. He opened with: "Sexual harassment is a very good thing." When this was greeted with laughter, he blushed and tried to explain he was talking about the directive.

Mini memories

MOTORING enthusiasts will revive memories of *The Italian Job* when they take part in this year's Lord Mayor's Show on November 9. No fewer than 35 Mini Cooper cars — as featured in the 1960s bank heist film starring Michael Caine — will motor through the City when the £3 million parade gets under way.

Spotted surfers

SO YOU thought the typical Internet surfer was a spotty youth with a predilection for anoraks and *Baywatch*? Wrong. A new survey claims the average surfer earns more than £25,000 a year. More than one-quarter of British consumers say they would buy motor insurance over the net and 75 per cent of the business already transacted is by women. The survey, by Market Assessment Publications, called Financial Services Organisations, claims the high street will be the biggest losers in the Internet revolution.

Philip Bassett on radical US proposals to regulate boardrooms

Curtains for corporate back-scratching

Strict limits on the number of board appointments that company directors can take, the banning of boardroom back-scratching where directors serve on each other's boards, and the imposition of precise skill requirements for directors all sound like proposals from an interventionist Labour government.

In fact, they are the central recommendations of reforms shortly to be proposed for company directors in the United States — by the directors themselves.

In Britain, the issue of corporate governance — what companies do and how they do it — is about to get a fresh airing. Tomorrow, Sir Ronald Hampel, the chairman of ICI who is heading the Stock Exchange-supported inquiry into corporate governance, will write to a large number of interested parties asking them to submit evidence to him. His inquiry team, comprising industry leaders and the City's great and the good, has met five times so far but is still playing the issue long. Its interim report will not be out until after the general election, with its final recommendations expected at the end of 1997.

In spite of all this private activity by the Hampel committee, the issue of corporate governance has largely retreated from the headlines, mainly because of the defusing of the row over "fat-cat" pay by the Government-backed inquiry into boardroom remuneration headed by Sir Richard Greenbury, chairman of Marks & Spencer. Though some in the City have wriggled over Greenbury — and wriggled hard, especially over pensions — company reports are increasingly complying with its central recommendation by including much fuller levels of disclosure about what board members earn, to protect their Stock Exchange listing.

If corporate governance has disappeared from the news agenda, it remains a business priority. Yesterday, leaders of the Institute of Directors staged a conference on the "enterprise side of governance", including addresses from Coats Viyella and Slough Estates, with the declared aim of trying to balance proper board accountability with entrepreneurial drive. According to Tim Melville-Ross, Director-General of the IoD: "The debate so far has been too heavily biased towards accountability and regulation."

In America, the IoD's sister organisation, the National Association of Corporate Directors (NACD), is about to make a much more radical move. Last year, while the Greenbury inquiry was inching nervously towards its proposals, the NACD strongly recommended that company directors be paid in stock rather than cash to increase their connection with the firms on whose boards they sit.

"The response was large-scale," John Nash, the NACD's president, said in Florida this week, where he was attending a conference on corporate governance at the Stetson University College of Law. "We have seen a sharp increase in the number of companies paying their directors in stock."

In the 1950s and 1960s, payment in stock in the US formed only 10 per cent of chief executive officers' (CEOs) pay packages. By the 1980s it was 25 per cent; it is now up to 41 per cent. During 1996, CEOs' long-term incentive payments — frowned on by Greenbury — have fallen by 15 per cent, while stock option grants are up 13 per cent in a year.

With the Dow hitting 6,000 this week for the first time, payments in stock are clearly attractive. Steven Hall, managing director of Pearl Meyer, the New York-based pay specialists, says: "Stock options are the drug of choice in executive compensation in corporate America this year." Next month, the NACD will launch a new set of recommendations, which it believes will be even more far-reaching — and which could carry implications for Britain, too. "The general recommendations will have a profound impact on board behaviour," says Charles Elson, a law professor at Stetson and a member of the NACD commission that drew up the report. "It will compel compliance."

The aim of the report on director professionalism from the commission, which includes US business leaders from General Motors, Eastman Kodak, 3M, Texaco and Bethlehem Steel, as well as academics from Harvard and elsewhere, pension fund managers and key shareholder activists, is to increase the effectiveness of company directors, who, the NACD feels, should have redirected managers in companies like IBM, GM and American Express before they hit trouble.

From a largely right-wing perspective, the commission will put forward proposals on November 12 that are far more radical in many ways than some left-wingers in Britain now advocate to reform companies. They include:

☐ **Board numbers.** The most far-reaching proposal will be precise limits on the number of boards directors can sit on. US shareholder activists, now including the Teamsters, the largest trade union, have identified some business leaders serving on a large number of boards, such as Frank Carlucci of Bell Atlantic and General Dynamics, who sits on 14, and Vernon Jordan of Dell Computer and Pepsico, who sits on 11.

The NACD report, which will be the centrepiece at a conference in Washington next month, will say that CEOs should sit on only one, or at the very most two other company boards, and then only after consulting their own board, and only if experience of the other firms can add to that of the CEO's. Other senior managers should sit on only two or three other boards, and the limit for "professional" directors who do no other job should be five or six.

☐ **Interlocking directorships.** A key feature of the boardroom pay row in Britain that led to Greenbury was the emergence of a web of directorships where board members sat on each other's boards. Greenbury shied away from confronting this mutual corporate back-scratching, but the NACD report will propose that the practice be ended, and directors appointed on the basis of fitting what companies' want, and usually after an executive search by headhunters, rather than the old boys' network.

☐ **Skills.** The NACD will propose minimum standards for company directors — the association accepts that many board members currently do not meet these standards. As well as standards on wider issues such as integrity, leadership qualities and others, some proposals will be pretty basic — including the demonstrable ability to read a company balance sheet.

☐ **Corporate heads.** Although the US is ahead of Britain in some respects, in others it is not. Cadbury recommended the splitting of the roles of chairman and chief executive — a proposal now widely followed in Britain. In the US, the NACD commission could not reach a consensus so it will say merely that, while the idea has advantages, individual company circumstances will dictate practice.

Parallels between Britain and the US are not exact, from the structure of equity ownership onwards, as the graphic shows. Britain has a strong imbalance in terms of institutional share ownership, compared to Japan, say, where ownership is generally balanced, or the US, where individual share ownership is strongest.

The imbalance extends to executive pay. Research by Monks Partnership, the UK pay specialists, shows that chief executives' total earnings in the UK rose by 5 per cent in 1994, compared with 12 per cent in the US. New US figures suggest that pay levels for CEOs in the *Fortune* Top 100 companies will average $4.8 million (£2.7 million) this year.

However, US business leaders react with horror to the idea of going before a Congressional committee to disclose salary levels and working patterns, as business leaders did in Britain last year before a House of Commons select committee. Shareholder activism is much more advanced in the US than in Britain, though disruptions to the annual meetings of British Gas — which featured a pig called Cedric, brought along by the GMB general union — and Hanson this year, shows how much closer to US levels of activism Britain is moving.

James Heard, president of Institutional Shareholder Services, the US's leading corporate governance advisory firm, believes the New York Stock Exchange will introduce governance requirements for its company listings within the next five years. Later this month his firm will be briefing its UK client companies in London on how the US and UK overlap on corporate governance.

America, despite being hit hard by downsizing and continuing rows over executive pay, offers some glimpses of the way the argument over what companies do and how they do it may go in the UK.

The Hampel inquiry may suggest a new, post-election way forward, and what is happening in the US may help in offering some new signposts, not all of which may be to the liking of British companies and their directors.



Sir Ronald Hampel: heads UK corporate governance inquiry



Frank Carlucci: former US Cabinet member who sits on 14 boards



Sir Richard Greenbury: took action to defuse row over "fat-cat" pay

SHARE OWNERSHIP PATTERNS

	Japan	Germany	France	USA	Canada	UK
Individuals	20	17	34	48	15	18
Banks	21	14	6	3	7	1
Institutions	21	15	18	34	38	60
Corporate	28	39	21	0	14	2
Gov't & Other	2	3	2	9	1	3
Foreign	8	12	19	6	25	16
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100

Source: NACD

Can funds win back investors' trust?

Robert Miller on the damage done to the industry by the Morgan Grenfell affair

No one can draw comfort from the damage that Morgan Grenfell has wreaked on the good name of the unit trust industry. But it is a particular blow to the Government and the Labour Party.

While both sides of the political spectrum will welcome yesterday's clear-out of senior Morgan Grenfell executives as a sign that the messy business will not go away, they will be aware that many who may have been thinking about investing in unit trusts will be put off from making what might be a wise decision.

The Conservatives and Labour are committed to the view that we will all have to make more private provision for long-term retirement and healthcare. It follows, therefore, that the £128 billion unit trust industry will be in the forefront of such a move.

Unit trusts offer a relatively low-cost entry point into equity and bond markets, spreading the risk across dozens, if not hundreds, of holdings. Philip Warland, Director-General of the Association of Unit Trusts and Investment Funds, says: "There is no doubt in my mind that the Morgan Grenfell business has damaged unit trusts, as did the recent Jardine Fleming affair. But it has led to the fundamental question being posed in unit trust houses across the City as to who manages the fund manager? Whatever else happens, the recent events have concentrated the minds of unit trusts about what their responsibilities are."

He says that rule changes on how unit trusts are managed and policed are to be expected. These, he says, will be incorporated in the new-style, open-ended investment companies that will replace many of the existing unit trusts in the next year to 18 months.

The pity of the recent happenings in the unit trust world is that such headline-grabbing scandals tend to obscure many of the good results achieved in recent years.

Nevertheless, and this is perhaps a main feature of the Morgan Grenfell business, short-termism has been allowed to rule to the ultimate detriment of investors and the industry alike. Of course, investors should keep a weather-eye on long-term core holdings, but selling a trust on the back of a one-year performance in isolation rather than, say, three to five or even seven years is a disservice and one of which many unit trust houses are guilty.

M&G, the UK's oldest unit trust group, founded in 1931, is one that has not been enjoying its customary sparkling performance record, and outsiders have been drafted in to beef up the investment team. But Michael McLintock, M&G's managing director-elect, says the group will not bow to short-term pressures for instant remedial action. He adds: "We have been going through a sticky patch, but we are always asking ourselves if we are doing the right thing and taking the correct approach for the longer term. A lot of products are short-term flavours of the month and if we were part of a big operation there would now be pressure on us to produce just such a short-term performance solution. But we are an independent house with a reputation for integrity, fair dealing and good long-term performance."

Unit trusts and investment trusts, perform a particularly useful service for investors. Their immediate task is to reassure millions of investors that their money is being looked after responsibly. People accept that stock markets rise and fall. What they will not tolerate is bad or incompetent management.

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BPTM 96.

Ann Hansford and Roger Hussey on summary financial statements

What's the point in being brief?

WHEN summary financial statements were introduced in 1990 as an alternative to a company's full report and accounts, the Department of Trade and Industry was clear on the reasons.

Essentially, the document is intended to improve shareholder communication and cut company costs. Now that there have been relaxations in the regulations, making it easier for companies to issue summary financial statements, it seems appropriate to look at the views of shareholders.

Arjo Wiggins Appleton and BAA supported our research. Although both included the summary financial statement in a larger document — the "annual review" — Arjo Wiggins Appleton's document was 44 pages and that of BAA 12 pages.

The table gives shareholders' responses to a question on what they considered to be the functions of the documents. In spite of the disparity in the size of the two publications, the responses were similar. The main function of the annual review is considered to be to assess the performance of the company. This response, together with the view that the annual review is designed to keep the shareholders abreast of company developments, suggests that voluntary disclosures are required in addition to the summary financial statements.

A further question we asked on readership of different items supports the importance of narrative. With both documents, the three most thoroughly read items were the chairman's statement, the chief executive's review and directors' emoluments. It is interesting that more than 20 per cent of respondents considered that the function of the document was to aid share-dealing decisions in spite of the fact that both annual reviews carried the statutory warning that the summary financial statement should not be used for this purpose. The shareholders were also asked a cross-check question that provided further data. The chart shows the percentage of those who answered "strongly agree" and "agree". These categories have been aggregated for comparison.

Shareholders of the two companies ranked the four choices in the same order, although the percentages show that there were some differences in the strength of responses. The highest level of agreement was the use of the annual review for keeping the shareholder informed. The second-highest level of agreement referred to the availability of the full annual report and accounts, and it is of concern that such a large percentage of shareholders apparently do not realise that this is available on request.

It is intriguing that a significant proportion of both groups of shareholders claim to use the annual review for share-trading purposes.

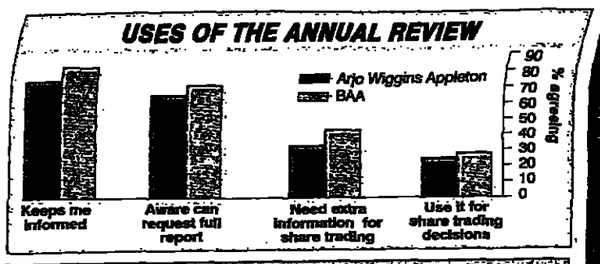
One explanation is provided by evidence from interviews, which suggests that less financially sophisticated users prefer a shorter document from which they can extract the information more easily, rather than a more comprehensive but more complex document.

As financial reporting regulations become even more complicated and the amount of required disclosures more extensive, the summary financial statement as part of an annual review becomes an increasingly attractive source of information for many private shareholders.

Many will regard the document as discharging a stewardship function, a way of quickly gaining information on the company. Although legislators did not intend summary financial statements to be used for decision-making, some will regard the document at least as one source of information for share trading. There are advantages in being brief and the desire to increase disclosures to prevent the misleading of shareholders should not overwhelm the need to illuminate them.

Shareholders' views of the annual review is available from Haydn Everitt, Deloitte and Touche, 0171-303 4463

The authors are at Bristol Business School

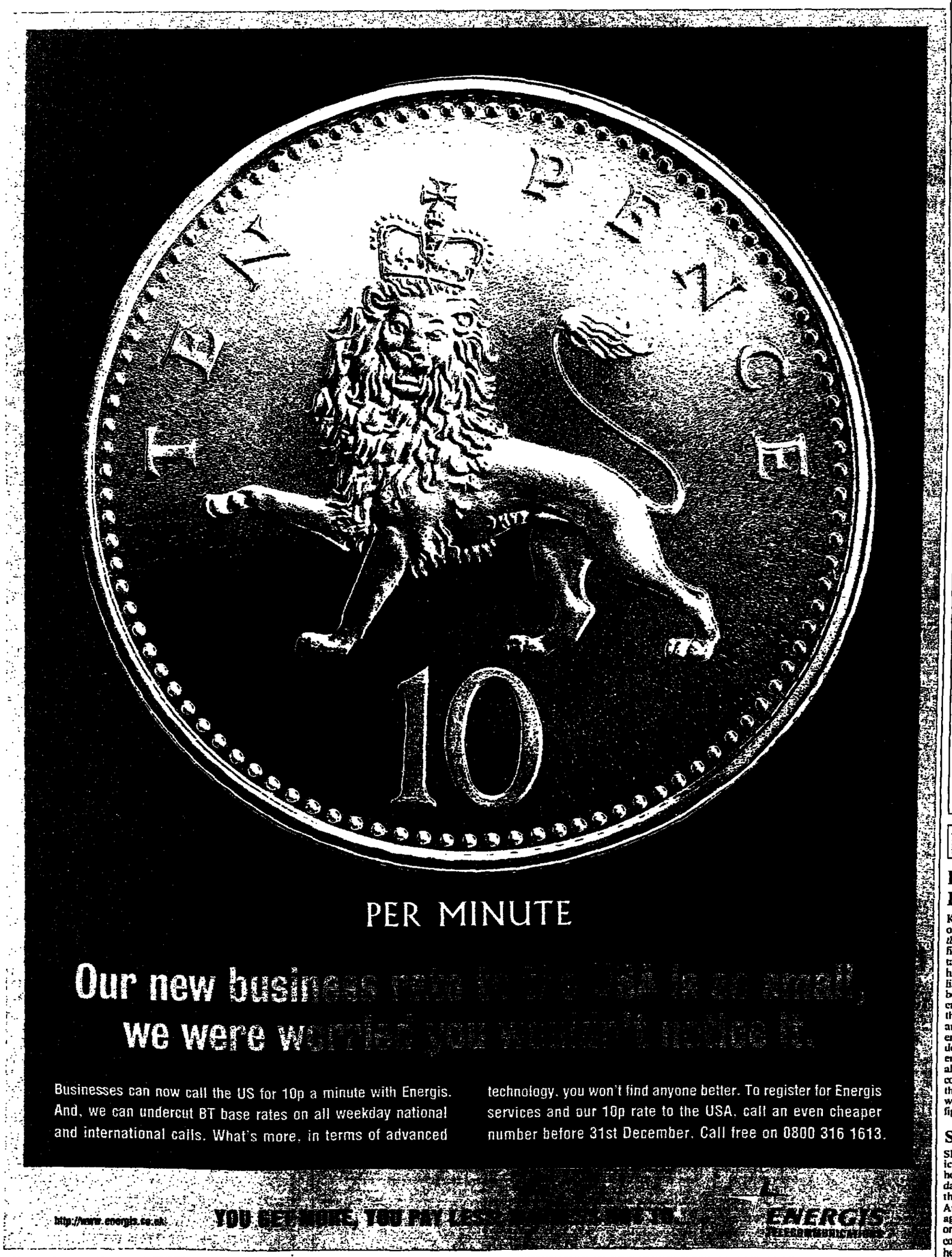


HOW THE DOCUMENT FUNCTIONS

Function	Arjo Wiggins Appleton %	BAA %
Assess the performance of the company	65.7	62.8
Keep abreast of company developments	52.3	54.1
Know the amount of dividend	47.9	55.9
Understand strategy and policies of the company	39.5	39.5
Aid future share dealing decisions	24.2	22.9
Feel involved with the company	17.0	18.6
Identify members of the board	15.2	18.6



Hussey: shareholders questioned



CALLS TO THE USA COST 10 PENCE PER MINUTE AT ENERGIS' DIRECT ACCESS BASE RATES AND FOR COMPANIES SUBSCRIBING TO INDIRECT ACCESS ON ENERGIS' VOLUMELINK 1 DISCOUNT SCHEME (£4 PER MONTH). TO QUALIFY FOR THIS OFFER, A 12 MONTH CONTRACT MUST BE RETURNED TO ENERGIS BY 31ST DECEMBER 1996. THIS OFFER IS ONLY OPEN TO BUSINESSES WHO SPEND MORE THAN £150 PER MONTH PER LOCATION ON NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL CALLS WITH ENERGIS. OFFER SUBJECT TO STATUS AND ENERGIS TERMS AND CONDITIONS. ALL FIGURES EXCLUDE VAT.



ROBERT BRUCE

Foundation to goad the profession

In medieval times God was thought to be the final arbiter. These days a committee will do. But the problem, as the Government has found with post-Nolan allegations of sleaze, is which group of which people will be accepted as ultimate judges of other people's behaviour. In public and professional life in recent years there has been a constant leapfrogging upwards in desperate attempts to create a tribunal, committee, or working party to inspire universal acceptance.

This week the accountancy profession published the blueprint of what it hopes will prove to be its ultimate arbiter. After months of toil proposals for an independent review board, which would initially oversee the regulatory side of the profession but in time turn into a body to act as a conscience for the accounting bodies, have finally been unveiled.

The structure is remarkably simple. A nominating board — The Foundation — would appoint a Review Board. The Foundation would have no accountants on it, "not even a past-president", as one committee member put it. The Review Board would have no regulatory powers but would follow its own agenda, reporting on anything that it felt the profession was not properly tackling.

The report's language is interesting. It says that "the public interest should be voiced with conspicuous independence". And it uses the word "goad" to show how it expects action to be brought about. "The independent articulation of public concerns should provide a mechanism," it says, "by which the professional bodies are goaded constantly to act to ensure that their system of regulation and discipline anticipates developing public concerns rather than simply reacting to them." By this method it hopes to bring about the much-needed combination of a system dynamic enough to move with the needs of public interest but stable enough to create confidence in what the profession is doing.

It will be a tough task. "It is the independence of comment upon the professional bodies' performance which offers the prospect of a dynamic system which could also be stable," the report says. "This is the principal reason for the creation of the Review Board." Initially it will cover systems of regulation and discipline, but as it develops, and if it feels the need to flex its muscles, it is expected that its remit would widen. The report envisages the Auditing Practices Board coming under the Review Board umbrella. It sees the regulation of insolvency services and the whole system of ethics also moving fairly swiftly under its control.

Probably the best description is of the Review Board as "observer and examiner" in line with the vision of Chris Swinson, of BDO Stoy Hayward, chairman of the implementation working party which has produced the report. The system will come into force in 1998 and take regulation and discipline as its primary focus. But it is hoped that it will emulate the US model, the Public Oversight Board, set up 20 years ago. In the words of Swinson, "after five years it will talk about anything it wants". Given enough freedom it should simply expand its role. Experience in the US, says the report, "suggests that the Review Board will act as a goad to the accountancy bodies. They, it is expected, will seek to avoid public criticism by the board by taking, where appropriate, anticipatory remedial action."

This will be a two-way process. The board will expect the profession to answer when criticised. "It would not," says the report, "be the purpose of the new body to speak for the public. Rather, it should be the new body's purpose to express its independent view of what is needed to preserve and enhance the reputation of the profession for serving the public interest: to act in this sense as a trustee of the profession's name and reputation ... it must be able not only to report on the profession, but also to require the profession to submit reports to it."

If the scheme is not nobbled at birth by the more secretive members of the profession, and there is no obvious way they could do that, it should become a truly independent arbiter. It will not quite provide a parting of the clouds and the hurling of thunderbolts, but something close.

It has also provided two valuable by-products. The working party has proved that all the accountancy bodies, by and large, can act together effectively as long as those with age-old political axes to grind are excluded.

And it has also ensured that if the next government opts for a US-style Securities and Exchange Commission, then a scheme that can be tacked on easily is already in existence.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Full exposure at *Ernst & Young*

KPMG has been making much of the survey it commissioned that shows a large majority of finance directors think accountancy firms, as KPMG alone has already done, should publish their accounts. KPMG began a poster campaign earlier this week with the theme that its books are open and so are its relationships with clients. The results can already be described as startling. No sooner had a poster appeared alongside offices of its arch-competitor, Ernst & Young, than E&Y announced that it too was going to publish full figures.

Spirited stuff

SIR DAVID TWEEDIE, the iconoclastic and humorous head of the Accounting Standards Board, is trying to get up the accounting nose of the American standard-setters again. Speaking at a seminar organised by the recruitment consultant, Hewitson Walker, he told of a spat with the chief accountant of the US Securities and Exchange Commission. "He was very angry about the idea that we would stop writing off goodwill over 20 years." Sir David said, "and tartly informed us that the Americans had thought this out 40 years ago and come up with the answer then." Sir David said: "I replied that brands like Gordon's Gin and Johnnie Walker are actually older than the United States and in my view have done more for the sum of human happiness than the United States." And to finish off, retorted that he "would write the United States off before Black Label".

Media medals

AFTER extensive research into how much media coverage leading lights of the six main accountancy firms receive, KPMG has just released its latest findings, showing managing partner Colin Sharman way ahead with 33. Other figures are more revealing. For example, Peter Smith, Coopers & Lybrand's self-effacing managing director, scored only six — outshone by, among others, Ron Paterson, E&Y's wily technical director.

ROBERT BRUCE

DMGT expands radio arm in Australia

FROM RACHEL BRIDGE IN SYDNEY

THE Daily Mail and General Trust stepped up its expansion into the Australian radio industry yesterday with the acquisition of a further two radio stations for A$9 million (£4.5 million).

The company, known locally as DMG Radio Australia, now has a string of 14 regional radio stations in three states, which will expand to 18 in the next few months as new stations come on air. It also owns one metropolitan station in Adelaide.

However, Paul Thompson, chief executive, admitted that the group is frustrated by the Australian Government's lack of progress in auctioning off new metropolitan FM licences which had been planned for early next year.

Analysts say too that a sharp rise in the price of existing metropolitan radio stations has forced DMG Radio to rethink its original strategy of buying mainly in Australia's cities and made it look at regional stations as well.

Mr Thompson said: "We remain committed to future growth through the acquisition of existing radio stations and — through new licences — the creation of new commercial radio stations.

"While the current delay in the issuing of new metropolitan FM licences is frustrating, it is allowing DMG to rapidly build the infrastructure required for the development and management of a significant network of radio stations in major and regional markets."

The two stations acquired yesterday, 2AY AM and B104.9 in Albury, New South Wales give DMG Radio a dominant presence in central and south-western New South Wales.

The Australian radio industry is dominated by two players, Austereo and Australian Radio Network and takes a 9 per cent share of total advertising revenue. Unlike UK licencing regulations, Australia does not require a radio station to specify its programming format before a licence is awarded, allowing it to alter it to suit demand. The Daily Mail and General Trust already owns more than 30 radio stations in the UK and Scandinavia.



Geoffrey Woods, chief executive of Bridport-Gundry. Its aviation acquisitions include Militair, which supplies spares for the Harrier jet shown

Post Office seeks power to mount takeover bids

BY CHRISTINE BUCKLEY, INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

THE Post Office mounted a fresh push for takeover powers yesterday, calling on MPs to let it buy other businesses and set up joint ventures.

The organisation has already had early-stage talks with a number of businesses in complementary areas. A spokesman said: "If we were allowed the commercial freedom we want, we would know where to go." He said the Post Office would look to expand its business internationally and in the UK, offering one-stop services such as direct mail.

Richard Close, finance director, told the Commons Trade and Industry Select Committee inquiry into the Post Office that the organisation wanted the same commercial freedom enjoyed by other state-run postal services. He said that the UK should be able to operate in the same fashion as the Dutch Post Office, which recently bid for TNT, the international parcel carrier. He said that TNT competed with Parcelforce, part of the Royal Mail.

Sir Michael Heron, Post Office chairman, warned MPs that the organisation was at a crossroads from which it could move to be a world-beating post office or a "ghost office".

He said the Dutch bid for TNT, which has said it intends to set up a rival mail delivery service, was "precisely the sort of competition we have warned about and again underlines the Post Office's urgent and essential need for commercial freedom".

Sir Michael also called for the Government to ease the cash demands — the external financing limits — it makes on the Post Office. The Post Office must pay the Government £925 million over the next three years.

The committee heard from all sides in the postal service in its one-day inquiry, including the unions and customers groups. The Communication Workers' Union is currently balloting members on a pay and conditions package amid a long-running dispute with the Post Office.

The one-day strikes implemented by the union over the summer resulted in a one-month suspension of the Post Office's monopoly of post costing less than £1. If further action is taken the Government has said it will suspend the monopoly for three months. The result of the ballot is expected at the end of the month.

The Communication Workers' Union has backed the Post Office's calls for government cash demands to be trimmed. It said the Treasury was too stringent, denies the Post Office "vital finance for investment and has contributed to the current climate of industrial unrest in Royal Mail".

Bridport's aviation expansion

BY NOEL FUNG

BRIDPORT-GUNDRY, the specialist textiles and aviation products group, has raised £9.1 million through a rights issue to fund three acquisitions that will double its market capitalisation from £15 million to £30 million.

The acquisitions, costing £11.95 million, are Militair Aviation, an aircraft spares distributor; Avery, a passenger-cabin textile designer and manufacturer; and Safety-wear, an aviation clothing distributor. They will need to be approved at a general meeting on November 8.

The three for four rights issue at 130p per share, raising £9.1 million, will cover the cash and loan notes portion of the acquisitions, while the rest will be financed through the issue of shares.

Aviation and defence contributed more than 50 per cent of the group's profits in the year to July 31. Pre-tax profits increased 9 per cent to £1.45 million, on turnover up 7 per cent at £30.3 million.

Graham MacSporran, the finance director, said the acquisitions would increase earnings per share by up to 20 per cent. The group is to dispose of its non-core sport and leisure division.

The proposed final dividend will be 2.44p, making a total of 4.04p, up 12 per cent.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Compaq Computer boosts profits 43%

COMPAQ Computer Corp lifted its profits by 43 per cent in the third quarter as it increased sales of personal computers and accessories and streamlined operations. Compaq, the world's largest supplier of personal computers, said that net income for the three months to September 30 rose to $350 million, from $245 million. Earnings per share were $1.26, up from 89 cents previously. The per-share results were well above Wall Street estimates of $1.07, but the shares fell by $1.875, to $73.25, in early trading in New York.

Revenue rose by 25 per cent, to $4.5 billion, from $3.6 billion. Compaq said that its accessories business, which includes monitors, keyboards, and CD changers, grew significantly in the third quarter and remained one of its most profitable segments. For the first nine months of the year, net income grew by 20 per cent, to $851 million, from $707 million. Revenue rose to $12.7 billion, from $10.1 billion. Worldwide sales were $14.8 billion last year, the last full year.

Portfolio value falls

TOWN CENTRE SECURITIES, the property investment company, reported a 2 per cent fall in the total value of its portfolio to £253 million yesterday. This was in spite of the addition of shopping centres in Salisbury and Leigh. The average yield of new purchases was in excess of 9 per cent. Pre-tax profits were £9.88 million (£9.3 million) in the year to June 30. Earnings eased to 5.92p a share (6.38p) as a result of a higher tax charge. The total dividend is 3.5p a share (3.25p), with a 2.45p final.

Ashbourne buys homes

ASHBOURNE, one of the UK's largest private nursing home groups, has acquired three purpose-built nursing homes for a total of £5.9 million. The homes, with a total of 134 beds, are in Bolton, Cambridge and Upminster. Ashbourne will now operate 3,325 beds in 46 homes. Homes with a total of 591 beds are currently under construction and due for completion within the next 12 months. Tony Hamilton, chief executive, said that the company would continue to seek suitable acquisitions.

Wescol exports flourish

WESCOL Group, the structural steel fabricator, said orders since the year-end have been excellent, with export orders exceeding the total for the previous year. The company has secured three contracts in Singapore worth more than £5 million. In the year to July 31, Wescol lifted pre-tax profits to £1.2 million, from £800,000, on turnover that improved to £28.7 million (£24.3 million). Earnings were 2.6p a share (2p). A final dividend of 0.7p a share lifts the total to 1p (0.75p).

Adwest in Nissan deal

ADWEST, the engineering company, has secured a contract worth £7.5 million annually to supply pedal boxes, gearshifts and handbrakes for Nissan's new Primera. The car is the first Nissan model designed specifically for European markets and is set to become its best-selling model in Europe. Adwest Rearsby, a subsidiary, also supplies components for the Nissan Micra. Nissan has 204 suppliers in Europe, spending about £705 million each year on components.

Blockleys passes payout

BLOCKLEYS, maker of bricks and clay paviours, is passing payment of an interim dividend (0.01p last time). In the six months to June 30, the company cut pre-tax losses to £54,000, from £211,000, but it says that trading conditions remain harsh, with the construction industry expecting UK brick sales to be lower than in 1995. Company turnover fell to £4.4 million, from £5.28 million, in what Brian Taylor, chairman, called "the worst half-year recorded in the brick industry".

La Senza expanding

LA SENZA, the specialist lingerie and sleepware retailer, plans to open a further seven shops, including its first outlets in central London, within the next month. A 15-year lease was signed last week for a shop in Oxford Street, giving the company a presence in the West End of London. La Senza raised £19.35 million when its shares were floated on the Alternative Investment Market in May, to fund the opening of 150 shops nationwide over five years.

Jurys to open London Inn

FROM EILEEN MCCABE IN DUBLIN

JURYS HOTEL GROUP, based in Dublin, is exporting its Inn budget accommodation concept to Britain, with the construction of a hotel in central London.

The new Jurys Inn will be built on a site in Pentonville Road that the company bought for £1.75 million. If it is successful, Jurys plans to open up similar operations in large British cities over the next few years, the company said yesterday.

It also announced the creation of a new Inn in Limerick city at a cost of Ir£7.5 million.

Jurys established its first no-frills Inn hotel in Dublin in 1992 and now has four units in Ireland. Another Jurys Inn in Belfast is due to open in March 1997.

Jurys' Inns provide three-star accommodation at budget prices. Rooms at the London Inn will cost around £60 a night. All rooms will be en-suite and will accommodate three adults, or a family of four.

The hotel chain, which also operates a string of luxury hotels in Ireland and the UK, reported a 58 per cent increase in pre-tax profits to Ir£9.51 million for the year ended April 1996.

Accounting change hits Burn Stewart Distillers

BY KEITH RODGERS

PRE-TAX profits at Burn Stewart Distillers, the Scotch whisky producer, dived in the year to June 30, after its auditor insisted on a change in accounting practices.

The company, which said its underlying business was improving, had postponed the results for two weeks as it applied accounting standard FRS 5. As a result, forecast pre-tax profits of about £4 million fell to £1 million, compared with £3.96 million.

The change centred on its dealings with a wholesale customer, which also provides consultancy services to Burn Stewart. Price Waterhouse, its auditor, judged that the customer was effectively not independent and that FRS 5 applied. Burn Stewart was forced to make provisions and defer profit until the current year, when the consultancy agreement ends.

It is proposing to pay a further dividend of 1.7p per share in November — making 3.4p for the year, compared with 5p — but expects to make a larger interim or full-year dividend in the current year. Earnings per share fell from 4.65p to 0.94p, on turnover up from £50.4 million to £54.4 million. The company's gearing increased slightly, to 99 per cent.

Ian Bankier, group managing director, said gross margins remained stable at 25 per cent.

The company claimed to have growing support for its repeated calls for increases in supply side prices of up to 50 per cent, although Mr Bankier said he did not expect significant movement until the next financial year.

The share price, already at an all-time low, fell 11.5p to 70p at the start of trading yesterday, before recovering slightly.

United Assurance given shareholder approval

BY MARIANNE CURPHEY

TRADING will begin today in United Assurance, a new £1.4 billion insurance company formed from the merger of Refuge Assurance and United Friendly.

The merger was finally approved yesterday by both sets of shareholders after two months of wrangling. The deal had faced opposition from a number of institutional shareholders, which argued that Refuge had been undervalued by £450 million and the potential value of its surplus "orphan" assets in the life fund had been ignored.

The deal was announced in August and Refuge eventually bowed to shareholder pressure and created a sweetener in the form of a new security that guaranteed its shareholders a slice of any future benefits. At the extraordinary meeting in Wilmslow, Cheshire, Refuge shareholders approved both the issue of new security and the terms of the merger. United Friendly shareholders also approved the terms by post.

The last obstacle to the merger was effectively removed when Perpetual, the leading fund manager, which holds a 7 per cent stake in Refuge and which had voiced criticism of the merger, gave the deal its blessing last week.

The Prudential, which holds 6 per cent of Refuge, and Britannic, Refuge's biggest institutional shareholder with a stake of 10 per cent, had both expressed reservations about the deal. However, after the creation of the sweetener they accepted the terms at the end of September. Shares in both companies rose on news of the approval: United Friendly by 4½p to 888½p and Refuge by 4p to 442½p.

Pennington, page 29

KINGDOM OF MOROCCO
MINISTRY OF PUBLIC WORKS

CONCESSION OF THE NEW INTERNATIONAL TRANSSHIPMENT ATLANTIC-TANGIER PORT

INTERNATIONAL OPEN TENDER ANNOUNCEMENT FOR PREQUALIFICATION OF BIDDERS

The Moroccan Ministry of Public Works is launching an international open tender for the prequalification of bidders interested in the concession of new Atlantic-Tangier port.
The new port would receive on one hand, all the traffics of the present port of Tangier not including the passengers, fishing and pleasure traffics which would remain in the present port, and on the other hand, international transshipment traffics.
The concession implies that the selected bidder (concessionaire) take charge of carrying out the detailed and tender design engineering studies, constructing the new port and operating it for a certain period of time to be defined later. The option of conceding the operating of the present port of Tangier might be considered through the offers to be submitted by the bidders.
The tender is open to Moroccan and foreign corporate bodies, companies, shipowners, banks and financial institutions, public and private corporations, individually or associated in joint ventures, and having satisfactory technical and financial references.
The prequalification application documents may be obtained by the interested bidders from the Direction des Ports et du Domaine Public Maritime of the Ministry of Public Works starting October the 15th, 1996. The application for prequalification will be made by answering the questionnaire of the prequalification application documents. The duly filled in prequalification documents are to be sent along with a registration application, not later than December 23, 1996 at 6.00p.m. to the following address:

DIRECTION DES PORTS ET DU DOMAINE PUBLIC MARITIME
ROUTE D'AKRACH, HAY NAHDA II
B.P. 5131 — Rabat-Takaddoum
Rabat-Morocco

Phone: (212 7) 75 39 45 & (212 7) 75 57 14 —
Fax: (212 7) 75 00 11

A briefing session will be held on October 31, 1996 at 10.00a.m. at Marchane Palace — Tangier. Companies interested in attending this briefing session are requested to apply by October 28, 1996 at the latest.

Expected schedule:

Notification of the prequalification results to the candidates: March first, 1997.
Closing date for the selection application: July 31, 1997.
Notification of the selection results to the prequalified candidates: September 30, 1997.
Notification of the concession: March, 1998.

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'Feel-good' factor back at Pru

BY MARIANNE CURPHEY

NEW BUSINESS figures published yesterday by the Prudential, the UK pensions group, show the long-awaited "feel-good" factor has returned to the savings market.

The greatest shift in sales has been toward single premium products. Worldwide single contribution sales for life, pension and investment products were up by 52 per cent in the nine months to September 30, and UK single sales rose by 48 per cent. If a one-off annuity sale of £500 million were included in the figures, they would total £5 billion worldwide, up by 70 per cent, and £2.78 billion in the UK, up by 80 per cent.

The Prudential's figures are seen as a benchmark within the industry, and will be encouraging to other life companies. During 1995, sales fell amid consumers' fears over job security and people's reluctance to buy into the life industry after the pensions mis-selling scandal.



Peter Davis saw Prudential win more new business

Tough new rules on the way in which products are sold, known in the industry as "disclosure", are also believed to have dampened sales.

Peter Davis, Prudential's group chief executive, said that he was "delighted" with the figures. "Sales are continuing to grow in our US and Asia operations, while, in the UK, our new marking and distribution initiatives continue to boost sales significantly," he said.

Single contribution sales continued to benefit from the successful marketing of the Prudence Savings Account and the Prudence Bond, a with-profits investment bond, which brought in £461 million and £564 million respectively. The Prudence Bond has attracted more than £4 billion since its launch in April 1991. Regular contribution products increased by 9 per cent, to £229 million.

In Asia, annual premium sales rose by 17 per cent, to £68 million, and single premium sales more than doubled to £61 million, boosted by Singapore.

THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
AIB UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD				
01865 269 783				
Eastland Assn	229.80	242.10†	+ 0.60	0.14
Eastland Equity	288.70	306.90	+ 1.10	1.79
Eastland Euro	271.10	286.90	+ 1.90	0.56
Eastland Expl Bd	134.90	139.80	- 0.25	5.92
Eastland Gilt	76.47	79.00	+ 0.07	6.33
Eastland Japan	165.10	174.70	+ 0.30	
AXA EQUITY & LAW UNIT TST MGRS				
01203 563 231				
General Acc	688.40	730.30†		2.38
General Inc	573.00	609.60†		2.38
UK Growth Acc	471.20	501.30†		2.59
UK Growth Inc	394.30	324.40†		3.59
Higher Inc Acc	814.90	867.00†		4.01
Higher Inc Inc	434.10	461.90†		4.01
Gilt/Fxd Int Acc	214.20	226.20†		5.75
Gilt/Fxd Int Inc	93.82	99.80†		5.75
Nth America	387.20	412.00†		
Europe	364.50	387.80†		0.45
Int Equity	93.12	99.07		2.65
Int Fixd/Idx Acc	116.60	124.10†		4.52
Int Fixd/Idx Inc	77.96	82.99†		4.52
Global Opps	104.90	111.70		
Balanced Acc	64.32	68.43†	- 0.03	2.62
Balanced Inc	60.08	63.93†	- 0.37	2.62
Japan Acc	44.43	47.27†		
Pac Basin Acc	401.20	426.90†		0.96
ABBEY UNIT TST MGRS				
0345 717 373				
Gilts & Fixed Int	132.60	140.80†	- 0.50	6.83
High Inc Equity	184.40	197.20†	- 1.10	4.37
Worldwide Bond	281.80	299.80†	- 1.40	4.62
American Growth	381.20	418.20†	- 2.10	0.30
Asian Pacific	334.20	346.70	- 0.90	0.04
Assets & Earnings	314.60	334.50	- 1.50	2.88
Euro Capital Acc	188.80	201.80†	- 1.10	0.78
Euro Inc	43.56	46.34†	- 0.28	7.74
General	288.40	306.80†	- 1.20	2.86
Global Opps	59.95	74.42	- 0.13	0.54
Japan	114.80	121.90	- 0.60	
Balanced Inc	48.49	51.58†	- 0.25	4.65
Moneybond	171.30	183.20	- 0.80	1.00
US Emerging Cos	229.60	234.70	- 0.90	
Ethical	82.80	87.82	- 0.33	2.42
International	139.30	148.20	- 0.40	0.26
Dividend & Growth	69.02	73.43	- 0.37	4.18
Global Gwth & Sec	73.44	78.48	+ 0.03	2.33
Latin America	68.66	78.91	- 0.40	
Capital Reserve	145.70	145.80		4.80
ABERFORTH UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0131 220 0733				
Bk Small Cos	2365.00	2490.00		
ABTRUST UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0800 833 388				
Amer Inc & Growth	62.45	64.81†	- 0.32	0.15
Emerging Mkts	72.77	76.92	- 0.34	0.04
European	152.30	158.40	- 0.40	
Exempt	1110.00	1160.00†	+ 3.00	1.59
Extra Income #	47.03	50.19†	- 0.14	6.48
Far East Emg Eqy	120.20	126.80	+ 0.04	0.62
Fixed Interest #	75.80	76.83	+ 0.03	8.85
Fund Inv Tst	154.00	161.60†	+ 0.50	9.50
Japan	176.20	183.10	+ 0.40	
Latin American	80.95	83.56	- 0.26	0.77
Pacific	84.69	88.92	- 0.21	0.29
Property Shares	71.53	75.08	- 0.04	2.34
UK Emerging Cos	71.60	77.39	+ 0.17	1.24
UK Growth	54.95	57.91†	- 0.33	2.03
UK Mixed Prod #	93.73	98.61	- 0.30	2.69
Ethical	76.47	81.61	- 0.30	2.16
Aberdeen Gilt Inc #	50.99	51.12†	+ 0.06	7.25
For AEGON see Matheson				
AIRWAYS UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0171 256 5988				
Restd Property #	98.91	106.40		5.27
ALLCHURCHES INV MGMT SVS LTD				
01452 305 958				
Monthly Income	92.32	97.95†	- 0.17	2.24
Income Builder Inc	82.40	87.66	- 0.40	4.19
ALLIED DUNBAR UNIT TSTS PLC				
BFA dlg: 01793 610 366 Client dlg: 01793 514 514				
Growth & Income	291.80	311.90†	- 1.40	2.98
Capital	541.90	546.80†	- 1.80	1.15
Balanced	852.20	911.00	- 4.70	2.38
Accumulation	1636.00	1751.00†	- 9.00	1.78
Income Trusts:				
American Income	82.31	86.40†	- 0.28	2.40
High Income	467.10	499.30†	- 2.50	3.79
Equity Income	366.60	384.30	- 1.50	3.91
High Yield	368.50	388.10†	- 1.70	3.90
Gilt Securities	34.14	36.04†	- 0.29	6.05
International Trusts:				
Amer Spec Sits	219.50	234.40†	- 0.40	0.05
European Growth	53.81	57.09†	- 0.25	0.07
International	189.80	202.80	- 0.30	0.11
Japan	196.50	210.00	+ 0.10	
Pacific	412.40	440.80	- 1.30	
Spec Sit Americas	606.60	648.70	- 02.00	0.12
Wwide Asset Val	58.66	62.78†	- 0.15	0.62
Specialist Trusts:				
Asset Value	656.10	701.30	- 4.00	1.95
Gwth & Gilt	51.18	54.71†	- 0.06	3.87
Smaller Cos	202.70	224.10	- 0.30	1.02
2nd Smaller Cos	196.70	212.40†	- 0.30	0.97
Recovery	174.10	186.10†	- 0.40	1.52
Mid Mkt & Cnty	165.90	177.20		0.18
Smaller Companies	436.80	466.90	- 2.40	1.04
Technology	234.90	251.00†	- 1.70	
UK Special Sits	594.60	635.60†	- 2.80	0.99
B & C E UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
01293 526 911				
Extnded Inst Pens	120.60	125.20	+ 0.40	3.04
Foreign Instl Pens	71.94	74.74	+ 0.09	1.44
BSI-THORNHILL UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
0171 600 0033				
Capital	86.96	92.51	- 0.21	1.27
International	70.64	75.15	- 0.79	
BAILLIE GIFFORD & CO LTD				
0131 222 4242				
America	356.30	379.40†	+ 1.80	
Bond	119.40	125.50†	- 0.10	6.86
Bill Smlr Cos	119.20	126.80	- 0.50	1.77
Comp & Gen #	70.20	74.66	- 0.16	5.23
Europe	288.70	306.00	- 1.50	0.58
Euro Smlr Cos	126.40	134.20	- 0.40	0.58
Income Gwth	365.40	389.00†	- 1.20	4.86
Japan	307.70	326.90†	- 0.20	
Latin American	86.67	92.20	- 0.65	0.74
Pacific	114.10	121.40	- 0.60	1.00
UK Smlr Cos	69.10	63.94	- 0.10	1.35
Japan Fd	638.20	656.80	+ 0.60	
Mngd Fd	205.40	218.10	- 1.10	2.75
BANK OF IRELAND FUND MGRS LTD				
0171 488 8673				
Bnt & Deposit	376.30	396.00		0.89
Capital Gwth	130.60	132.10		3.13
Wwide Opps	221.80	234.60		0.93
BARCLAYS UNICORN LTD				
0181 542 4000				
Balanced Trusts				
Bld Inv Fd Inc	442.60	463.30†	- 2.30	3.33
European Bd Inc	98.12	101.60	+ 0.10	6.64
Exempt	85.83	91.44	- 0.20	2.74
500	512.80	550.70	+ 0.30	2.35
General	332.70	358.20†	- 1.30	2.48
Property	345.50	363.40		5.20
Trustee	232.30	248.40	- 1.00	2.30
Income Trusts				
Cash Inc	100.20	100.20†		5.10
Distribution @ #	114.80	115.40†	- 0.20	5.97
Extra Income #	138.60	148.30†	- 0.50	4.73
Gilt & Fxd Int	59.45	61.53	- 0.13	7.72
Income #	692.30	644.20	- 1.70	4.51
Income Builder #	70.37	75.07†	- 0.16	5.25
Intl Income	72.02	76.61	- 0.25	2.62
Growth Trusts - UK				
Capital	146.00	156.20	- 0.60	1.97
FTSE 100	103.50	110.20	- 0.60	2.58
Leisure	182.30	194.90	+ 0.20	0.72
Recovery	584.20	538.20	- 1.80	3.62
Smlr Cos Inc	98.27	104.50	+ 0.06	5.38
Special Sits	464.00	493.40	- 0.70	1.38
Growth Trusts - Overseas				
America	176.10	186.90	- 0.50	0.40
Far East Gwth Acc	269.20	286.60	- 0.50	2.04
Far East Gwth	172.90	183.50	- 0.40	2.04
Euro Gwth Inc	195.40	207.30	- 1.30	0.44
- do- Accum	212.50	225.50	- 1.40	0.44
Japan	146.60	155.20	- 0.30	
- do- Accum	148.30	157.00	- 0.30	
Japan Smlr Cos	58.98	62.43	- 0.03	
Worldwide	201.00	213.40	- 0.60	0.46
BARING FUND MANAGERS LTD				
0171 214 1004				
American Growth	137.10	144.90	- 0.50	
Amer Smlr Cos	174.50	187.60	- 0.70	
Convertibles	61.47	65.86†	+ 0.02	4.60
Eastern	298.60	329.70	- 1.10	0.30
Equity Income #	101.00	107.00	- 0.30	0.07
European Growth	363.00	385.70	- 1.80	0.60
Europe	361.50	385.20	- 3.00	0.60
German Growth	88.39	93.74	- 0.86	0.50
Global Bond	72.23	75.98	- 0.06	5.13
Global Growth	149.80	158.20	- 0.80	0.48
Japan Growth	192.60	204.90	- 1.00	
Japan Smlr Cos	156.90	165.30	+ 0.70	
Japan Trust	64.51	68.77	+ 0.78	
Portfolio	148.30	158.50	- 1.70	2.00
- do- Accum	251.00	268.40	- 1.40	2.00
UK Growth	107.90	115.70	- 0.40	2.69
UK Smaller Cos	98.67	106.90†	- 0.30	1.90
Capital Reserve	90.42	96.90	- 0.31	1.00
BLACKSTONE FRANKS UT MGRS LTD				
0171 250 3300				
Int'l Gwth Pref Acc	51.55	54.99		
Special Opps Inc	60.02	63.85		
BRITANNIA FUND MGRS LTD				
0141 223 6320				
Balanced Growth	144.15	152.57†	- 2.60	1.41
- do- Accum	167.84	177.61	- 3.03	1.40
Smaller Cos	156.94	166.07	+ 0.61	0.68
Higher Yield #	57.55	60.90†	- 0.99	4.08
American Gth Inc	104.41	110.48	- 0.48	0.38
European Growth	167.50	177.25†	- 2.27	
- do- Accum	170.67	180.61	- 2.27	
Global Bond Inc #	76.51	77.36	+ 0.04	4.52
Mngd Pfd Inc	53.62	56.93†	- 0.14	1.40
- do- Accum	56.56	59.98	- 0.15	1.40
Int'l Spec Opps	166.03	177.81	- 0.45	
Pacific Gth	141.89	150.15	- 4.13	
UK Emerging Co	99.43	104.16	- 1.74	2.27
- do- Accum #	105.31	111.44	- 1.86	2.27
Japan	57.55	60.88	- 0.01	
Gilt & Fixed Int #	102.72	105.92	+ 0.08	6.39
BURRAGE UNIT TST MGMT LTD				
0171 480 7216				
Short Dated Gilt	67.09	67.95	+ 0.02	6.39
CIS UNIT MANAGERS LTD				
0161 837 5080				
Europe	197.90	202.60	- 0.20	1.74
UK Growth	217.20	228.80	- 0.70	1.94
UK Income	150.00	157.50†	- 0.60	4.38
CANADA LIFE MGMT (UK) LTD				
01707 892 100				
Can Gen Dist	259.61	264.00	- 1.10	1.86
- do- Income Dist	127.10	134.70	- 3.20	3.71
- do- Accum	416.50	441.50	- 1.20	3.71
Gilt & Fxd Int	43.24	43.35	- 0.14	6.27
Growth Units:				
Blend	350.00	377.80†	- 1.60	2.00
Int'l Growth	177.90	187.20†	+ 0.40	0.90
North American	242.90	254.80	- 0.50	0.18
Far East	206.30	220.80	- 1.00	0.18
UK Smaller Cos	329.10	349.80	- 0.10	0.97
European	99.97	104.30	- 0.40	0.61
Sustainable Growth	45.32	48.75	- 0.11	
High Income	332.00	337.30†	- 1.20	4.44
CAPEL-CURE MYERS UT MGMT LTD				
0161 831 7433 Enq 0161 831 7433 Dlg 0161 831 7455				
American & Gen	294.15	239.00†	- 0.10	
Exempt Unit Inc	75.79	107.10	- 0.40	0.48
Sovereign Cov (4-11)	109.90	117.00†	- 0.10	1.50
Gilt-ed	559.20	594.90†	- 2.20	1.75
Income & Growth #	485.40	495.20†	- 3.00	3.81
- do- Accum #	703.62	745.60	- 4.50	3.81
Japan & Gen	85.33	88.23	- 0.14	
Middle Portfolio	1132.94	1170.01	- 45.00	1.79
- do- Accum	1152.00	1190.00	- 56.00	1.79
Special Sits	129.53	137.80	- 1.20	1.29
High Yield	115.23	119.71	- 0.90	4.25
CAZENOVE UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
0171 606 0708				
Cazenove Portfolio	1033.32	1101.19	- 0.39	2.32
American Portfolio	125.50	133.40	- 0.61	0.85
European Portfolio	138.93	145.90†	- 0.14	0.61
High Income	52.89	53.04	- 0.25	6.92
Japanese Portfolio	66.88	71.01	+ 0.02	
Pacific Portfolio	1758.56	1870.50	- 0.16	1.48
UK Equity	98.08	104.62†	- 0.43	3.03
UK Equity & Bd	58.16	62.71	- 0.45	6.05
CCMT BD OF FIN OF CHURCH OF ENG				
0171 588 1815				
Inv Fund	786.20	788.17	- 1.00	4.18
Fxd in Sec	158.02	158.66	- 0.06	9.01
COF CHARITY FUNDS				
0171 588 1815				
Investment Inc	773.48	785.16	- 1.24	4.24
Investment Acc	826.66	838.20	- 0.61	
Fixed Int Inc	126.12	126.64	+ 1.45	9.02
Fixed Int Acc	233.49	234.43	+ 2.64	
CITY FINANCIAL UT MGRS LTD				
0171 407 5966				
Beckman Bd	90.04	94.90†	- 1.77	3.96
Beck Bio-Tech	46.48	50.16		
Acorn Ethical Tst	188.56	198.00		0.43
City Fin Assets	82.50	86.63†		1.51
City Fin Aggress	111.95	117.56		
City Fin Intl	93.76	98.46†	+ 0.38	0.44
City Fin Japan	140.64	147.68		
Fmers Hse Cap	327.85	348.76		2.42
Barclay Yield Gth	141.48	149.95†	- 3.93	
FSnd Inc/Gth Inc	56.48	59.31		3.25
Share Utilities	55.54	58.40	- 0.77	6.45
CITY OF LONDON UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
0171 711 0271 Admin: 01277 227 300				
Emerging Markets	56.19	59.62	- 0.35	
CLERICAL MEDICAL UT MGRS LTD				
0345 772 233				
American Gwth	81.90	87.13	- 0.33	
Dragon Gwth	71.81	76.80	- 0.17	0.43
Equity High Inc	90.69	97.12	- 0.39	3.96
- do- Accum	121.26	140.57	- 0.86	3.95
Extra Income Inc	26.67	28.08†	+ 0.05	7.29
Extra Income Acc	29.35	30.91	+ 0.06	7.28
European Gwth	63.70	67.59	- 0.31	0.86
Evergreen	31.89	34.10	- 0.10	0.02
General Equity	106.80	113.47	- 0.54	2.85
Japan Growth	48.84	51.11	- 0.04	
Pedigree Gwth	63.25	66.98	- 0.34	2.30
Pref Sm Cos Inc	38.34	41.23	+ 0.06	1.42
- do- Accum	40.62	43.68	+ 0.07	1.42
Retirement Inc #	27.74	29.83	- 0.12	3.61
Special Sits	47.20	50.75	- 0.21	2.36
UK & Overseas	60.44	64.13	- 0.21	0.65
COLONIAL UT MGRS LTD				
01834 866 000				
Balanced	70.48	73.41	- 0.41	4.11
Cap Gld	84.68	86.20	- 0.63	2.60
High Income	92.64	94.91	- 0.39	6.67
Top 50	57.45	59.84	- 0.29	2.56
COMMERCIAL UNION TRUST MGRS LTD				
0181 686 6818				
PRESTIGE PORTFOLIO (PPT FUNDS)				
Income Funds:				
Equity Inc	196.78	204.98†	- 0.58	4.48
Long Gilt	43.44	45.22†	- 0.26	6.13
Monthly Inc Plus	50.23	52.32	- 0.04	4.59
Preference Share	47.06	49.02†	- 0.13	7.95
Balanced Funds:				
High Yield	142.67	148.93†	- 0.21	5.73
Managed Fund	77.42	80.65†	- 0.25	2.70
UK Growth Funds:				
Smaller Cos	54.10	56.35	+ 0.17	1.69
- do- Accum	63.94	66.60	+ 0.19	1.69
UK & General	99.18	103.31†	+ 0.51	2.86
- do- Accum	130.44	135.88†	- 0.66	2.86
Uk Growth	200.25	208.59	- 0.19	1.75
International Growth Funds:				
Europe Growth	211.91	220.74	- 1.20	0.66
Far Eastern Gth	138.59	142.28	- 0.38	0.02
Global Bond	79.54	82.85†	- 0.26	5.98
Japan Growth	110.51	115.11	- 0.33	
North Amer Gth	241.10	251.15	- 0.77	
Oriental Growth	84.70	88.23	- 0.19	0.26
Worldwide Growth	74.36	77.46	- 0.27	
OTHER CO TRSTS (NON PPT FUNDS)				
Deposit Fund	91.59	91.59†	+ 0.01	5.10
Homeowner Fund	93.30	98.26	- 0.31	1.52
Guilter Fund	158.21	169.37	- 1.02	1.88
CONSISTENT UNIT TST MGMT CO LTD				
0171 487 5866				
Consistent UT	36.19	38.70		4.29
COOKE (HENRY) INV FUNDS LTD				
0800 525 356				
Growth	181.90	193.50	+ 0.10	1.52
Income	74.16	78.89	- 0.40	4.59
European	75.85	80.69	- 0.32	1.17
Recovery	193.00	205.30	+ 0.39	2.20
CO-OP PENSION FDS UT MGRS LTD				
0171 263 9494				
Equity Dist	1019.30	1034.30		3.26
CREDIT SUISSE INV FDS (UK) LTD				
01277 696 370				
Fellowship Tst	112.70	119.80†	+ 0.30	1.15
Income #	290.80	309.30	- 6.90	4.09
- do- Accum #	776.40	825.90	- 1.80	4.09
Smaller Cos	238.60	253.80	+ 0.40	0.65
- do- Accum	296.20	315.10	+ 0.40	0.65
Gth Portfolio	104.30	110.90	- 0.30	1.29
High Inc Port #	85.10	90.53	- 0.30	4.20
DIMENSIONAL TST MGMT LTD				
0171 470 1634				
Euro Small Cos	1709.20	1757.60		
Japan Small Cos	1163.20	1182.90		0.01
Uk Small Cos	2217.90	2312.30		2.86
US Small Cos	2185.20	2280.10		0.83
DISCRETIONARY UNIT FUND MGRS				
0171 377 8819				
Disc Inc	234.60	246.90		3.03
EAGLE STAR UNIT MGRS LTD				
01242 577 565				
UK Balanced Inc	176.20	187.40	- 0.60	1.72
UK High Inc Inc	163.60	185.60	- 0.60	3.64
- do- Accum	348.30	354.10	- 1.10	3.64
Uk Pref & F I Inc	60.32	64.00	- 0.21	5.78
Exempt Opps	98.83	105.20		0.94
UK Smlr Cos #	70.23	74.71	+ 0.02	0.80
Extra Income Inc	49.94	53.12	+ 0.09	7.80
EDINBURGH UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
0345 090 526				
American	178.10	188.60	- 0.50	0.42
Convertibles #	23.52	24.98†	- 0.02	5.80
Equity Income #	145.10	154.20†	- 0.80	3.89
Eurofund	63.76	67.47	- 0.22	0.59
Financial	58.92	60.48†	- 0.19	1.49
Growth & Inc #	294.30	313.30	- 1.40	2.79
High Dist #	184.30	195.80	- 1.00	4.34
International	439.10	466.50	- 1.00	0.11
Int Cap Inc	104.50	111.80†	- 0.06	2.42
Latin American	33.34	35.42	- 0.23	
Pacific	81.51	86.60†	- 0.06	
Prel High Inc	32.45	33.86†	+ 0.05	7.54
Tokyo	217.50	230.30†	- 0.60	
Uk Smaller Cos	257.00	273.10		1.10
Dunedin Unit Trusts				
European Gwth	336.90	355.80	- 1.20	1.01
Jap Smlr Co	425.00	451.10	+ 1.80	
Nth Amer	432.70	458.60	- 1.80	0.64
UK Inc & Gwth	354.40	372.30†	- 0.10	2.72
ELY PLACE UNIT MGMT LTD				
0171 242 0242				
BR Director Dlgs	118.25	125.47	- 1.36	1.11
Growth Acc	262.77	279.39	+ 1.75	1.10
Income	615.59	658.38	+ 1.55	6.08
ENDURANCE FUND MGMT LTD				
0171 373 7351				
Endurance Fd	230.30	245.00†		0.99
EQUITABLE UNIT TRUST MGRS				
01296 431 480				
European	91.81	96.64	- 0.42	1.99
Ethical Tst	48.39	50.94	- 0.26	0.82
Far Eastern	305.57	321.65	- 0.35	1.60
High Income	142.98	150.50	- 0.77	4.75
UK Index Tracking	92.16	54.91	- 0.37	3.17
Intl Growth	144.42	152.02	- 0.65	0.29
North American	150.14	158.04†	- 0.83	1.60
Pelican	143.20	150.80	- 0.65	3.07
Smaller Cos	73.20	77.05	- 0.25	2.83
Special Sits	91.55	96.51†	+ 0.09	2.58
Tst of Inv Trsts	220.17	231.76	- 0.76	1.25
EVERMORE FUND MGMT LTD				
0171 407 5866				
Smaller Cos Inc	235.86	250.01†	+ 0.22	1.49
Smaller Cos Acc	429.99	455.87†	+ 1.23	1.49
Recovery	58.13	61.94	- 0.19	1.72
Recovery Acc	60.06	63.69	- 0.41	1.72
EXETER FUND MANAGERS LTD				
01392 412 144				
Capital Growth	94.74	101.60†	+ 0.13	
Fd of Inv Trsts	53.45	57.01	+ 0.11	0.51
High Income #	39.45	41.59†	+ 0.03	11.06
Warrant	48.33	53.53†	+ 0.04	
Zero Preference	45.29	48.05	+ 0.04	
FAMILY INVESTMENT MGMT LTD				
01273 220 707				
Family Asset Fd	95.32	101.40†		2.60
United Charities	315.60	335.70†		2.36
FIDELITY INVESTMENT SERV'S LTD				
Callflow: Private Client: 0800 414 161				
Cash Fund				
Cash Fund	100.00	100.00		5.28
Bond Funds				
Intl Bond	29.76	29.82	- 0.10	5.22
Strategic Inc	37.23	39.47†	- 0.17	5.70
Income Funds				
High Income	26.93	28.25†	- 0.13	5.46
Income Plus	133.10	141.60	- 1.40	3.88
European Income	50.19	53.33	- 0.28	2.55
Sterling Inc	31.97	33.95	- 0.15	2.21
Equity Funds:				
ASEAN	58.83	63.82†	+ 0.13	
American	332.70	352.70	- 0.20	
Asian Smaller Cos	190.80	202.40	- 1.10	
Asian Smaller Cos	32.78	34.91	- 0.08	
European	231.80	246.50†	- 1.10	0.55
European Opps	81.30	86.45	- 0.47	0.02
Global Prin	30.71	32.66	- 0.15	0.34
UK Growth	125.50	133.50		1.45
Growth & Inc	180.70	192.20	- 0.80	2.41
Intl PEP	48.82	51.91	- 0.20	1.03
Japan Spec Sits	86.53	92.02	- 0.27	
Japan	174.30	184.90	- 0.70	
Managed Intl	359.10	381.60	- 1.10	0.49
Moneybuilder	67.62	71.90	- 0.08	
Recovery	63.61	67.07	- 0.14	1.61
South E Asia	185.80	198.20†	- 1.00	0.98
Special Sits	738.10	784.80†	- 2.00	0.56
Specialist Funds:				
Cash Access Inv/c	116.19	116.19	+ 0.02	5.20
FLEMING PRIVATE FUND MGMT LTD				
0171 814 2100				
Balanced #	152.00	154.50†	- 0.60	1.55
Fleming Pvt Inv #	97.25	98.54	- 0.05	1.81
Cap Prime	167.30	169.90	- 1.00	0.84
General Opps	144.60	146.70†	- 1.50	4.01
Growth Inc	38.28	38.90	- 0.24	0.96
Private Portfolio	496.90	525.30	+ 0.50	0.97
FOREIGN & COLONIAL UNIT MGT				
Dlg 01277 696 386 Admin/Cs: 01277 696 350				
Euro Smlr Cos	153.70	163.30	- 0.10	0.23
Emrg Asian	132.50	140.80†	- 0.60	
High Income	21.54	22.89†	- 0.07	5.63
UK Income	116.70	123.90	- 0.60	4.04
US Smaller Cos	434.50	464.80†	- 0.70	
For Foster & Braithwaite see Guilter				

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
FRANKLINGTON UNIT MGMT LTD				
Enq 0171 280 8500 Dealing: 0345 775511				
American Growth	82.75	88.10	- 0.41	
- do- Accum	82.75	88.10	- 0.41	
Amer Smlr Cos	128.80	775.50	+ 6.80	
- do- Accum	744.50	786.30	+ 6.80	
Capital Tst	432.80	428.50†	+ 0.40	1.50
- do- Accum	591.80	629.80†	+ 0.70	1.50
Cont Smlr Cos	61.19	65.27	- 0.29	1.09
- do- Accum	65.10	69.44	- 0.41	1.09
Convertible	144.20	153.40	- 2.40	3.60
Dividend Inc	312.30	332.20	- 5.60	5.60
Emerging Markets	65.95	70.46	- 1.80	0.30
- do- Accum	66.16	70.70	- 1.80	0.30
European	151.50	160.50	- 1.10	0.50
- do- Accum	165.80	175.50	- 1.20	0.45
Financial	177.80	189.10†	- 0.20	0.46
- do- Accum	188.80	201.00†	- 0.20	0.46
Gilt Trust	63.72	65.70†	- 0.14	6.79
- do- Accum	69.09	102.10†	- 0.30	6.79
Health Fund Inc	255.20	263.40	- 1.50	
- do- Accum	255.20	263.40	- 1.50	
Income & Growth	235.80	250.90	- 0.90	3.61
- do- Accum	371.60	397.40	- 1.80	3.61
Int'l Growth	443.50	472.50†	- 2.50	
- do- Accum	492.50	524.20†	+ 0.20	
Japan & Gen	167.10	177.80	+ 0.20	
- do- Accum	168.70	179.40	+ 0.20	
Managed Port Inc	121.80	126.20	- 2.40	1.48
- do- Accum	132.30	139.30	- 2.50	1.48
Oversea Income #	98.27	82.50	- 0.23	5.78
- do- Accum #	86.95	71.80	- 0.27	5.29
Recovery	348.60	372.80	- 0.50	
- do- Accum	411.50	440.10	- 0.50	
UK Growth	67.56	71.97	- 0.38	2.

Gilts and equities sharply lower

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

1996 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	PE
536	419	Allied Domecq	482½	+ 2½	6.1	18.3
635	477	Bass (IBP)	520		3.2	17.4
131	79	Bass Strutt	79	- 7½	5.9	
775	515	Bskwoodgrp A	735		2.0	19.3
497½	417	Brunel Hldg	469	+ 2	3.9	20.7
493	435	Bullmastr	453	+ 6	4.2	14.1
379	315	Highland Dist	329½	+ 3½	3.2	15.6
882	277½	Matthew Clark	299	- 6½	10.8	14.2
141	93	Morgan W	113		5.0	10.3
2614½	1988½	SA Breweries	1703½	- 25	3.0	

BANKS

3716½	2743½	ABN AMRO	3578½		3.7	12.9
883	530	Abbey Nat	606	- 9½	4.8	11.2
395	315	Albert Irish	360½	- 1	4.7	10.9
1744½	285	Aus Nat Z	3693	- 3½	5.0	9.1
5582½	3843½	Bank Montreal	5552½	- 5½		
776	527½	Bank Scotland	760	- 4	3.4	9.9
981½	683	Barclays	975½		3.6	10.7
5169	413	Bk of Ireland	516	- ½	3.7	11.8
482	379	Cater Allen	394½		9.5	11.7
5468½	4031½	Citicorp	5462½			
392	307½	Close Brost	341		3.7	13.7
1575	1316½	Commercial	1421½		3.5	
1250	1050	Dn Kds Nat Yt	1065½	- 12½	0.4	
3412½	2716½	Deutsche Bk	3018½	- 2½	2.5	
3264	2701½	Espirito Santo	2701½		4.4	10.8
1507	1165½	Fst Rank Yt	1192½	+ 11	9.7	
427	336	Gerrard Nat	396	+ 11	9.7	5.4
2672½	196	Hambros	247	- 3	3.6	
1284½	931	HSBC	1252½	- 8	3.7	12.7
1248	930	HSBC Hk	1240	- 5	3.8	11.7
4689½	3851	Irish Permt	4674		3.1	12.8
777	743	King Shaxson	762½		6.9	14.1
458	405	Lancshr Pr	458		5.4	16.5
4189½	2949½	Lloyds TSB	4014	- 6	5.7	12.7
653	586	Nat Asst Gp	615½	- ½	7.0	8.0
713	605½	Nat West	680	- 6	4.7	10.0
82	49½	Nor Brothers	67½		2.0	24.6
586	464	Prd Bk Scot	547½	- 5½	4.1	11.4
1465	1185	Schroders	1457½	- 5	1.5	16.6
1205	838	Schroders (NV)	1205		1.8	13.7
134	98½	Singer & Friedl	130½		4.1	9.4
729½	547	Standd Chartd	680½	- 13	2.2	13.8
1155½	857	Union	1023½		4.2	16.6
£1744	£1311	Wells Fargo	£1649		2.0	
348½	264	Westpac	342	- 4½	4.1	10.6
360	258	Wstmnst	345		4.5	17.3

BREWERIES, PUBS & REST

90	36	Aberdn Sn HO	70			5.9
846½	702	Bass	778½	- 1	3.7	16.8
78	48	Bb for the Bst	59		3.6	18.0
205	161	Belgrad Brew	181½	-	4.2	16.4
133½	92	City Centre Rest	133	+ 1½	2.1	25.1
621	463	Compass Gp	588½	+ 2½	1.7	18.1
268	199	Eldridge P A 'C'	236½	- 4	2.5	21.4
548	453	Fuller Sm A	459		3.5	19.4
636	546	Greenalls Gp	592½	- 1	3.3	15.7
671	567½	Greene King	649½		3.8	16.3
268	198	Grosvenor Inns	204	- 3½	2.6	21.7
1355	1145	Gruppo Citro Cp	1245	- 1	1.4	
351	296½	Hardy Hanna	297		4.3	11.1
3475	3037½	Hsl JJ	2852½		2.5	15.4
72	45	Inn Business	66½		1.0	31.4
365	305	Mansfield	330		3.5	14.6
353½	275	Minton Thmp	341		3.1	12.1
673	535	Morland	595	- 2½	2.5	18.0
154	118	My Kinda Town	146½		2.6	
7½	4½	Paramount	6¾	- ¼	4.1	10.9
175	123	Pelican Gp	172½		4.6	21.6
536½	217	PizzaExpress	532½	- 9½	0.6	41.0
438	345	Ransomes (A)	375		1.7	40.2
267	138½	Regent Invst	267½	- 3	1.0	
1610	1011	Scott & Nwn	1511		3.9	22.1
265	188	Tom Cobleigh	238½	- ½	1.4	29.8
313	252½	Vaux Group	253	+ ½	5.1	13.1
1750½	648	Wetherspoon (JD)	1155	- 2½	1.0	29.4
758	672	Whitbread	698	- 1½	4.3	17.6
693	578	Wolverhmptn O	615½		4.2	14.0
407	291	Yates Bros	356½		1.3	26.2
650	425	Young A	635		3.0	25.1

BUILDING & CONSTRUCT

33	15	AAF Ind	25	+ 2½		
202	135	Abney	195		3.9	
298	217½	Allen	272½		3.9	16.5
370	117	Ansell	355½	- 2	2.7	22.5
495	233	Andrews Sykes	460		1.4	99
265	152	Ashtead	238½	- ½	1.6	25.5
38	25	Ashville	35		3.6	
54½	34	Bailey (Geo) Con	31		4.2	12.5
56	34	Barcrest	52		1.7	
284	219	Barratt Devel	263½	- 1	3.9	
213	165	Beazer (Hmdrs)	195	+ ½	3.8	16.7
349½	249	Bellway	330	+ 3½	3.0	16.4
21	14½	Bellwinch	20½			
551	483	Berkeley Gp	523	+ 9½	3.7	17.9
172	133	Bett Bros	163½		4.1	8.8
250	175	Bovis (Henry)	236½	- 1	4.2	15.6
139	91	Brandon Hire	117½		2.6	16.2
30	18	Britannia Gp	25½		7.8	
54	31	Br Bldg & Eng	41			
138	114	Brycort	137		4.6	23.1
188	88	CALA	99½	- ½	4.3	14.8
29	6½	Campbll & Asnd	6¾			
63½	37	Clarke T	63½		8.7	
163	39	Crosbie	51½			
87	51	Countrywide	72		4.9	
85	54½	Crest Nicholsn	73		3.4	19.3
88	69½	Cussons	72½	- 2½	6.7	11.7
238	178	Eve Group	180		0.8	
78	49	Galliford	69		6.4	
382½	733	Glenrose (MA)	902½		2.1	16.7
61	40	Green (Evrsh)	40		3.1	
379	265	Hardwick Euro	370		1.2	27.4
162	119	Hendrn-Sauntf	142		2.7	18.7
102	78	Higgs & Hill	90		4.0	
32	15	Howard Hdgs	18½		5.4	17.0
112½	52	Jarvis	105½			48.5
338	179	Kellsry	180	+ ½	3.1	14.9
323	247½	Laing (J)	272½		4.1	
117	97	Laing 6.4% Cv Pf	107½		7.4	
21	9½	Lovell (Y J)	11			
238	187½	Macalpine (J)	189		3.8	
197	126	McAlpine (A)	147½	- 1	5.9	
101	66	McCarthy & S	99	+ 1	3.2	13.4
193½	91	Morgan Sndall	188		3.2	11.7
1932	1600	Morrison (Wm)	1924		3.6	15.7
95	58½	Newton (JH)	93		4.0	14.9
242	173	Persimmon	235½	- 2	5.8	21.9
176	85	Pochins	126	+ 1½	2.5	
151	97	Pressing	127½		3.7	27.0
30	12½	Rame Ind	19½			
152	113	Redland	136		3.0	16.0
66	45	Secure Retire	51½		2.4	27.9
320	238	Sherrill Hdgsn	277½		3.2	11.7
92	68	Shanock	72		4.3	9.6
378	343	Spandex	359		1.0	20.8
159	112½	Tay Homes	114½	- 1	7.6	
182	115	Taylor Woodrow	158	- 1	2.3	17.2
506	408	Tilbury Dougls	497½		5.5	14.9
18½	10½	Try Group	14			
103	74	Wimpey	77		5.6	
112½	68	Wimhomes	108½	- 1	5.2	67.9
53	38	Ward Hdgs	39½		3.2	10.5
236½	170	Westbury	229½		3.2	11.5
9½	4½	Wiggins	9			40.9
190	152½	Wilcon (C)	162½		3.5	22.5
473	354	Wilcon Boardrt	467½	+ 5	2.7	22.0
160	126	Wimpey Gt	134	- ½	5.1	

BUILDING MATERIALS

15	5½	Abingdon	6			
391	284	BPB Ind	386	- 2	3.1	19.1
124	97	Bagnall Jn	113½	- 1	3.4	21.8
62	31	Baldwin	32½	- ½	7.7	14.0
1744½	285	Blackfrs	29	- 1½		
414½	322	Blue Circle	409½	- 3	3.9	29.7
97	77	Brandon PLC	94½		6.4	15.7
138	108	Br Dredging	132½		5.7	14.9
67	42½	CRH	65½	+ 2½	1.6	34.0
48	32½	Caledonian Hldg	48½		6.2	11.4
173	149	Capnl	152½		9.8	
264	199½	Caradon	264	+ 4½	4.5	29.4
139½	106	Carlton Ind	139½	+ 1	6.3	
30	19	Chesterfld Gp	29½		4.8	65.4
257½	156	Dyson (MJ)	255		2.2	20.1
117½	70	Dyson 'A'	106½		5.5	9.4
238	200	Ennstn	236½		5.4	15.5
1084½	824½	Fluren	1060½			25.5
95	81½	Gibbs & Dandy	83		5.5	6.5
208	124	Graham Gp	199½		5.1	27.7
406	341½	Halstead (J)	351½		3.3	
321	253	Hepworth	302	- 2½	6.1	17.4
69	36	Hewerdun	62½		5.0	14.2
256½	215	Hoved Wtwt	248		7.0	11.9
78	56½	Ibstock	68		4.0	13.7
500	335	Johnston	466		2.1	17.9
88	65	Lifecraft	69½		8.9	10.9
155	111	Marley	139½	- ½	4.2	18.1
184	131½	Marshalls	137½		4.7	12.0
471	349	Meyer Int	429½		3.1	20.5
148	102½	Moorcrft Select	139½	- 5½	8.3	15.5
106	81½	Moreng	86	+ ½	5.3	9.9
29	15	Phoenix Timber	21		1.2	
253	175	Pilkington	181	- 6½	3.5	19.6
1998½	1744½	Polypipe	1898		3.8	17.3
1489½	1174½	Ruberoid	1172½	- 5	2.7	18.6
476½	350	Rugby	462	+ ½	4.6	22.5
123	81½	Rush	81½	- 3½	7.2	9.0
150	87½	Rutland	149		4.7	10.9
468	359½	Ryarsh	401½	- 2	4.4	26.4
1485	1185	Schmidt(P)	1457½	- 5	1.5	16.6
1205	838	Schroders (NV)	1205		1.8	13.7
134	98½	Singer & Friedl	130½		4.1	9.4
729½	547	Standd Chartd	680½	- 13	2.2	13.8
1155½	857	Union	1023½		4.2	16.6
£1744	£1311	Wells Fargo	£1649		2.0	
348½	264	Westpac	342	- 4½	4.1	10.6
360	258	Wstmnst	345		4.5	17.3

CHEMICALS

207½	156	Albright & Wil	195	- 1½	4.2	15.5
154	113	Allied Colloids	148½		4.4	15.6
105	86	Amblergy Gp	89½		2.0	21.3
2887½	1443½	BOC Gp	2855½	+ 31½	2.8	
949	841	BTP	872	- 9½	3.9	15.5
351	256	BTP	330½	+ 9½	2.2	18.2
2467½	1718½	Bayer DM50	2421½	+ 9½	2.2	
112	70	Bnnt Chemgt	107½	+ 2½	4.9	20.6
249½	192	Br Vita	242		4.0	20.6
288½	192	Canning (W)	287½		3.9	27.9
291	186½	City Technology	187½	+ 1		
1	1	Clarkwilkins	1½			
372	294	Crodnt	366½	- 4½	3.3	17.3
317½	208½	Diadem	295½	- 1	1.8	15.9
309½	246	Elementis	303½	- 1	3.4	16.0
94	67	Enrc Colour	81	+ ½	3.4	
197	112½	Gibson	112½	- 2½	7.8	7.3
37	24	Hickson	24½		2.4	
2881½	1750	Hoechst	2855½		2.5	
65	47	Holliday Chem	58		4.7	18.9
81	48	Ics	62½	- 2½	4.8	19.4
395	295	Imperial	389½	- 1½	3.3	11.1
147	109½	Kalon	122	+ 3	4.8	33.6
38	28	Laporte	32½		7.4	12.0
329	159½	Mandoni	194		7.4	12.0
186	76	Micheroil	97½		2.4	12.0
30	26	Micrchcl	28½		3.0	15.7
432	230	Norsk	382		3.2	44.8
274	221	Scapa	252		4.8	9.3
34	28	Scottish Spnsh	28½	+ 2	8.2	17.3
1199½	922½	Tate & Lyle	1142½	+ 6	3.5	16.3
1133	788	Wdddstone Rt	875		4.9	12.6
286	208	Yorks Grp	282½		3.7	18.0
388	305	Yuas Calnd	382½			

DISTRIBUTORS

129	85½	ASS Leis	89½			9.8
146	109½	Arbor Cp Spts	135			
465	330	Arbor & Haney	452½	+ 2½	7.4	5.9
16	10½	Atmsphere	11		3.6	
113	79	Applegreen	84½		9.5	9.3
4	3	Ass Br Eng	3½		2.1	
536	386	Bss Group	508½		4.2	16.5
58	38	Bunzl	53½		4.3	13.8
215	157	Bunzl Pcfic	192½		5.9	16.1
65	39	Bunzl 'A'	44½		5.1	14.4

90	36	Abrdn Sn HO	70			5.9
846½	702	Bass	778½	- 1	3.7	16.8
78	48	Bb for the Bst	59		3.6	18.0
205	161	Belgrad Brew	181½	-	4.2	16.4
133½	92	City Centre Rest	133	+ 1½	2.1	25.1
621	463	Compass Gp	588½	+ 2½	1.7	18.1
268	199	Eldridge P A 'C'	236½	- 4	2.5	21.4
548	453	Fuller Sm A	459		3.5	19.4
636	546	Greenalls Gp	592½	- 1	3.3	15.7
671	567½	Greene King	649½		3.8	16.3
268	198	Grosvenor Inns	204	- 3½	2.6	21.7
1355	1145	Gruppo Citro Cp	1245	- 1	1.4	
351	296½	Hardy Hanna	297		4.3	11.1
3475	3037½	Hsl JJ	2852½		2.5	15.4
72	45	Inn Business	66½		1.0	31.4
365	305	Mansfield	330		3.5	14.6
353½	275	Minton Thmp	341		3.1	12.1
673	535	Morland	595	- 2½	2.5	18.0
154	118	My Kinda Town	146½		2.6	
7½	4½	Paramount	6¾	- ¼	4.1	10.9
175	123	Pelican Gp	172½		4.6	21.6
536½	217	PizzaExpress	532½	- 9½	0.6	41.0
438	345	Ransomes (A)	375		1.7	40.2
267	138½	Regent Invst	267½	- 3	1.0	
1610	1011	Scott & Nwn	1511		3.9	22.1
265	188	Tom Cobleigh	238½	- ½	1.4	29.8
313	252½	Vaux Group	253	+ ½	5.1	13.1
1750½	648	Wetherspoon (JD)	1155	- 2½	1.0	29.4
758	672	Whitbread	698	- 1½	4.3	17.6
693	578	Wolverhmptn O	615½		4.2	14.0
407	291	Yates Bros	356½		1.3	26.2
650	425	Young A	635		3.0	25.1

DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIALS

1¾	0¾	Anglo Utd	0¾			
388	288	Amalgamtd	351		1.9	13.5
387	353	Assct Hldgs	317½			11.6
1556	880	Bristol Hldr	800	- ½	3.1	17.8
340	259	BTR	282½	- 3	4.5	19.6
1¾	1	Bunzl	1½			
324	103	Berisford Int	111½		3.9	6.1
1347	998	Blobby (J)	133½		3.5	9.7
615	504	Bramley Inv	597		6.1	
810	610	Chubb	1134½	- 2	2.7	12.0
328	234	Cookson	309½	- 4½	4.1	13.5
193	141	Cossill	192½		3.9	12.1
293	204	DCC	270		3.1	16.7
1474	1111	Dalgety	1381		3.5	13.8
384	314	Ebsworth	384		3.9	
1324	814	Exmoor	1284½	- ½	17.2	4.4
172½	121	Hanson Cp/Adt	134½	- ½	8.4	13.2
442½	379½	Hatch Mtsprg	439½	- 5	1.7	24.0
429	356	Inspectrd Tattersall	389	- 5½	6.5	7.7
3525½	2621	Jardine Matth	3525½	- 6½	4.1	13.5
2171½	1697½	Lonrho	1698	- 3	3.6	19.8
191	164	McLeod Russel	177		4.6	15.2
478	368	Powell Duffryn	453½	+ 1	6.9	
97	67	Rapnet	92	+ 1	10.3	8.7
198	155	Sime Darby	193		2.1	
232	183½	Stanley	206	+ 2½	5.5	13.9
238	156	Sofer	232	+ ½	6.7	13.6
1078	859½	Swire Pacific	1068½	- 10½	2.1	12.7
358	288	TT Group	314		2.7	15.0
2242	2027½	Tomkins	2081	- 6½	4.6	14.3
286	167½	Unidare	177½		10.3	6.1
365	265	Wardle Storeys	353	- 1	10.2	7.4
3214	254	Wassall	327½		2.4	18.9
237	159½	Waterrott	156		4.6	11.1
3699	3107½	Williams Hldg	361	- 2½	5.0	16.2

ELECTRICITY

120	89	Br Energy PrP	119½	+ ½	7.9	
737	487½	East Midlands	487½	- 11	8.1	8.1
873	578½	London Elec	583½	- 2	8.2	8.2
208	154½	Midland Gold	172½	- ½	5.7	8.6
373	287½	Midland Pwr	304½	- ½	7.5	8.6
724	484	Northern Elec	493½	- 6	10.1	5.8
455	308	Nthn Ireland	335	+ ½	7.3	5.5
935	655	Powergen	669½	-	9.6	9.8
1175	875	Hydro-Elec	1075½	- 1½	6.3	9.7
3941	2534	Scottish Power	3917	- 4	6.3	9.3
910	607½	Southern Elec	829	- 4½	7.7	7.1
910	650	Yorkshire Elec	739½	- 11	6.7	8.9

ELECTRONIC & ELECT

562	539½	Acal	539½		2.0	17.7
311	185	Acorn Comp	302½			
333	163½	Admiral	318		0.8	32.5
218½	134	Aptrdsmith	143½		2.4	
551	33	Arlen	50½		3.2	12.1
164½	110	Arlect	154½	- ½	1.3	19.3
762	488	Aston	721	- 2½	0.7	23.8
352	270	BICC A	302½	+ 4	9.2	
223	175	Baden Hestor	196		7.2	8.5
558	388	Blick	399		4.5	11.0
471	383	Bowthorpe	457	- ½	2.6	19.6
24½	13	Bridgn (AF) 'A'	13½	+ ½	4.1	5.6
133	99½	CML Micro	113½		9.7	17.3
39	24	Channel Hdgs	28	- 2½	6.2	9.3
36	23½	Chloride	34½		1.6	19.9
92	66	Clarkhire	73½		5.9	8.1
69½	52½	Cradle Grp	31½			
962	655	Dnsty	872½		1.7	30.9
849	388	Dwks Bs Sys	802½	- 12½	0.4	30.9
464	323	Dollar	416½	- 1	4.8	37.8
450	340	Domino	393	- 1½	3.5	48.8
53	34	Dowding Mnfyt	52		4.5	16.8
370	154	Druck	360		5.6	39.5
3843½	2618½	Electrocm 'B'	3599½	- 18½	3.3	10.1
38½	30½	Emess	32		0.8	31.1
1708½	1125	Ericsson 'B'	1687½	- 9½	1.0	31.6
82	66	Eurocopy	69		4.4	12.2
945	515	Eurotherm	874		1.9	31.4
1125	787	Fairey Group	1125	+ ½	2.2	20.6
497	171½	Filtronic Comp	215	- 4	1.6	30.8
292½	155	Forward Gp	278½	- 3	0.9	25.9
1080	369	Forward Tech	439		0.9	31.0
482	341	GEC	386½	- 11½	4.1	17.5
137	113	Gloucstr	128½		6.4	23.1
142½	99½	Ind Control	128½		3.5	
38½	35	Inlock	36¼	+ 2½	3.8	18.6
131	94	Kode	115		1.3	10.7
57	34	LPA Ind	44	+ ½	1.1	9.6
315	230	MTL Instrts	310	+ 2	3.0	16.5
160	22½	Magnum Power	24½	- 1½		
298	245	Marconi Sn	287½		2.5	18.0
72	29	Microvitec	58	+ ½	3.7	9.8
472	308	Morgan Crucible	425		4.0	
69	36	Nestronics	68½	+ ½	1.2	
543	405	Oxford Inst	456	- 1½	1.8	15.6
237	172	Pace Micro	216	+ ½	1.4	
180	95	Pcnet Intrntnl	103		1.9	
137	97	Pnd	107½		4.0	15.6
2765½	1853½	Philips Lmp rt	2075		2.8	7.7
229	141	Plasmtrcs	172½			9.7
191½	164	Psion	177½			27.5
213½	146	Prosec	175		2.3	10.4
48½	33	Prosteria	44			22.7
470	236½	Racal	416	+ 9½	0.5	35.9
348	272½	Racal Elect	288½	+ ½	2.6	19.8
103	78	Redstone	101½		3.2	19.1
291	221	Rotaprint	253		2.7	
950	380	Rotctnor	490½		2.2	
6	1¼	Rodime	3½			
316	221½	Racotronic	272½	- 4	5.4	11.7
427	317	Sensornet	366½	- 1	2.8	39.5
83	62	Shrmbrkrs	82½		3.6	19.7
43	37	Spectrum Sr	42		3.6	
4016½	2003½	TDK	3834½	- 50	0.8	
347	6	TIS Groups	34½			30.8
56	34	TSI	51½		3.5	16.2
172	92½	TLS	166½		4.6	11.4
45	29	Tadpole Tech	42½			
354	91	Telemetrix	89½		2.7	13.9
670	169	Tetronic	212½	- 17½	1.0	
245	153	Thorpe Fhy	172½		10.1	14.5
36	20	Total Systems	31½		4.9	19.7
380	276	Vandell	310	- 2	1.6	17.1
3½	2½	Vinthy	3½			0.6
272	199½	Vitec	241½	- 1	3.1	20.7
480	383	Volex	465		3.4	14.5
16	13½	Wadsworth	14½	- ½		
172	106½	Wessex	167½	- 1	4.8	14.5

ENGINEERING

363	277	ABM	332½		2.1	17.5
98½	58	APV	78		2.6	
292	198	ASW	264	- 1	10.9	
457	356	Abtrust	385	- 5	2.7	15.0
175	101	Alvis	127½	- 6	5.1	9.9
297	164½	Ash & Lacy	168½		5.0	12.6
648	535	Alex Envir	618	+ 2½	3.9	18.1
153	106½	Avdel Ind	107½		4.4	11.4
384	284	BBA	363	+ ½	2.2	21.6
161	130½	BSS	141½	- 3	6.1	
145	96	Babcock	139½	- ½	5.3	
18½	6	Bailey (CH)	9½			7.5
144	98	Barnes (Charles)	130	- 2	2.5	19.1
88	74	Beaufort	87½		2.2	10.0
89	58	Beeson Group	80½			
105	78	Billiard	93		6.3	
687½	403	Bodycote	682½		1.5	36.5
48	35½	Booth Ind	35			11.1
39½	17	Brockwy	30½		4.2	11.1
98	75	Bunzl Pulp	96	- ½	5.6	9.5
1132½	787	Br Aerospace	1132½	- 19	1.5	22.6
231	161	Br Steel	186½	- 2½	6.7	5.0
15½	11½	Brooke Tool	14½		3.5	10.9
38	28	Brunel	30½		2.0	11.6
113	78	Bullough	77½			9.6
163	115	Bumblebee	116½		3.5	17.5
315	252	Cambr Ent	266½	- 1	3.0	11.1
239	177	Casings	232½		3.3	11.8
152	120	Chamberlin Hll	145		6.5	9.5
455	328	Chevening	345	+ ½	4.0	13.4
304½	196	Clyde Blowers	304½		2.9	12.6
1072½	671	Cookson	1064½	- ½

Restrictive covenant can be upheld

Rock Refrigeration Ltd v Jones and Another

Before Lord Justice Simon Brown, Lord Justice Morritt and Lord Justice Phillips

[Judgment October 10]

A restrictive covenant which was expressly provided to take effect upon the termination of a contract of employment "howsoever occasioned" was not necessarily an unreasonable restraint of trade and thus void and unenforceable.

The Court of Appeal so held in allowing an appeal by the plaintiffs, Rock Refrigeration Ltd, against a decision of Sir Michael Davies that a restrictive covenant imposed against the first defendant, Michael Anthony Jones, a former employee of the plaintiffs was unenforceable against him and the second defendants, Seward Refrigeration Ltd, his new employers.

Mr Eldred Tabachnik, QC and Mr Antony Sendall for plaintiffs: Mr Andrew Stafford for the defendants.

LORD JUSTICE SIMON BROWN said that in holding the covenants unenforceable the judge had founded his decision squarely on the judgment of Mr Justice Laws in *D v M (The Times* March 18, 1996; [1996] IRLR 192).

The starting point for that line of authority was *General Billposting Co v Atkinson* ([1909] AC 118) where the employers had dismissed their employee "in deliberate disregard of the terms of the contract" so as to "evince an intention no longer to be bound by the contract".

In those circumstances it was held that the employee "was thereupon justified in rescinding the contract and treating himself as absolved from the further performance of it on his part" so as no longer to be bound by the restrictive trade covenant which the employers were seeking to enforce. It was worth noting that the case was decided "on broader lines than those . . . as to mutual and independent covenants."

Next came *Briggs v Oates* ([1990] ICR 473) where the question arose whether a solicitor whose contract had been brought to an end by the dissolution of the partnership which had employed him was nevertheless bound by a restrictive provision expressed to operate once the agreement "shall have determined for whatever reason".

Mr Justice Scott had held not for three reasons: the first of which appeared to rely on the "mutuality" approach and the second was the *General Billposting* approach.

However, he went on to give his third reason as follows: "But the point goes further. Suppose I am wrong. Suppose [the submission] is right that under the true construction of the contract, clause 8 binds the defendant regardless of whether the agreement was brought to an end by . . . some . . . wrongful dismissal of the defendant. . ."

He continued: "If [those submission] are right I would regard the clause 8 restraint as unreasonable as between the parties. A contract under which an employee could be immediately and wrongfully dismissed but would nevertheless remain subject to an anti-competitive restraint seems to me to be grossly unreasonable. I would not be prepared to enforce the restraint in such a contract."

It was that third reason which was critical for present purposes since it was that which expressly underlay the decision in *D v M*.

In *Living Design (Home Improvements) Ltd v Davidson* ([1994] IRLR 69) the relevant covenants were to run for six months after the termination of the employee's employment "howsoever that comes about and whether lawful or not". Lord Coulsfield regarded that as "manifestly wholly unreasonable" agreeing with Mr Justice Scott's observations which, he said, "may have been obiter but they seem to me to be clearly correct".

For his Lordship's part, the law applicable to covenants and restraint of trade simply had no relevance to the present situation. The most basic premise upon which the whole restraint of trade doctrine was founded was that, but for the doctrine's application, the covenant in question would otherwise operate to restrain the employee unduly. It rendered unenforceable what would otherwise be enforceable.

The whole point about the *General Billposting* principle was that in cases of repudiatory breach by the employer, the employee was on that account released from his obligations under the contract and restrictive covenants, otherwise valid against him, accordingly could not be enforced.

Once that principle was decided, its future application necessarily postulated that such restrictive covenants upon their true construction would otherwise be enforceable against employees.

In short, Mr Justice Scott had clearly been right not wrong in the initial reasons he gave for holding the restrictive covenant unenforceable against the wronged solicitor. Thus the essential premise for the conclusion that the covenant would constitute and unreasonable restraint of trade collapsed: a covenant which in certain circumstances was discharged could not be unenforceable under the restraint of trade doctrine merely because in the self-same circumstances it would be unreasonable to enforce it.

His Lordship therefore held that *D v M* had been wrongly decided.

All that assumed (a) that all restrictive covenants necessarily became unenforceable upon the employee's acceptance of the employer's repudiatory breach, that is, that the *General Billposting* principle remained wholly unaffected by the *Photo Productions Ltd v Securicor Transport Ltd* ([1980] AC 827) line of authority and (b) that any wrongful termination of the contract by the employers would necessarily involve a repudiatory breach.

LORD JUSTICE MORRITT, concurring, said that the statement of Mr Justice Scott in *Briggs v Oates* had to be understood to be the rejection of the submissions of counsel put forward on a hypothesis which did not arise in that case and was, in his Lordship's view, a legal impossibility.

LORD JUSTICE PHILLIPS, agreeing that the appeal should be allowed, said that he did not find the route that lead to that conclusion as clear as the other members of the court.

His Lordship had concluded that the rule in *General Billposting* accorded neither with current legal principle nor with the requirements of business efficacy. That was not a point which it was necessary to decide because it did not, in his Lordship's judgment, affect the result of the appeal. However, it was right that he should express his reservations and explain why they did not affect the result of the appeal.

Since 1909 the law in relation to the discharge of contractual obligations by acceptance of repudiation had developed and clarified. *Heyman v Darwins Ltd* ([1942] AC 356) held that an arbitration clause remained binding after the acceptance of a repudiation and the theory that a contract was abrogated upon acceptance of a repudiation or a fundamental breach was finally laid to rest in *Photo Production Ltd v Securicor Transport Ltd*.

Negative restraints agreed to apply after the termination of employment should not be equated with the primary obligations that were discharged when a contract of employment was terminated consequent upon repudiation. The consideration for such restraints was in reality not the obligations to give the appropriate notice of termination of the employee's services but the granting of employment that afforded access to confidential information and goodwill.

Such restraints were not "one of the purposes of the contract" (*Heyman v Darwins Ltd*) they were ancillary to those purposes. But for *General Billposting* his Lordship could see no principle of law which precluded the parties from validly agreeing to restraints that would subsist even if the employment was brought to an end by repudiation.

It was at least arguable that, having regard to the subsequent development of that area of the law, not every restrictive covenant would be discharged upon repudiatory termination of the employment.

However, it was not necessary to resolve that issue.

If, contrary to Mr Stafford's concession [that the *General Billposting* principle was of universal application] the restrictive covenants would, if valid, have survived if Mr Jones had been wrongfully dismissed by Rock that feature did not render them unreasonable and consequently void as being an unlawful restraint of trade.

The remote possibility that Rock might have terminated his employment in circumstances where they repudiated their obligations did not render unreasonable covenants which purported to apply even if that contingency occurred.

Solicitors: Ashurst Morris Crisp; Eversheds, Manchester.

Purchasers entitled to lien to secure deposits

Chattey and Another v Farndale Holdings Inc

Before Lord Justice Kennedy, Lord Justice Morritt and Lord Justice Potter

[Judgment October 11]

Purchasers who signed conditional contracts to buy flats which were to be constructed in the future were entitled to a lien to secure the return of their deposits when the development failed.

The Court of Appeal so held in a reserved judgment, allowing an appeal by the first plaintiff, Stanley Chattey, but dismissing the appeal of the second plaintiff, Oliver Strebel, against the decision of Mr Justice Blackburne on May 21, 1996 that their claims against the defendants, Farndale Holdings Inc, failed.

Mr John Macdonald, QC and Mr Nicholas Le Poidevin for the plaintiffs: Mr Kim Lewison, QC and Mr John Wardell for the defendants.

LORD JUSTICE MORRITT said that each of the plaintiffs had contracted to buy the sub-underlease of one of a number of flats being constructed in a development and had paid deposits totalling 20 per cent of the purchase price. The construction work necessary for the creation of the flats was paid for out of the deposits and money borrowed from banks on the security of the development.

The vendor became insolvent. The development was sold at the instance of the banks and the plaintiffs claimed to recover their deposits from the subsequent owners of the development, ultimately the defendants, in priority to the banks and their successors in title by means of the purchaser's liens to which they claimed to be entitled.

The contracts signed by the plaintiffs had provided that the agreement was conditional upon the vendor obtaining satisfactory planning consent. Planning permission was subsequently granted.

One of the issues that arose was whether in view of the fact that the contracts were (a) conditional until the grant of satisfactory planning consent and (b) for the grant of leases not previously in existence, the plaintiffs were entitled to a purchaser's lien to secure the return of the deposits paid exercisable in priority to a debenture, granted before planning permission was given, and those claiming under it.

That issue necessitated consideration of the basic principles on which the purchaser's lien was founded. The defendants submitted that it was essential that the equitable interest in the property contracted to be purchased should have passed to the purchaser.

If the contract was conditional it was not specifically enforceable until the condition had been satisfied so that until then the beneficial or equitable interest in it could not have passed to the purchaser and, in consequence, there could not be a purchaser's lien.

The defendants also submitted that there could be no lien if the contract was for the grant of property not previously existing, such as a new lease, for there could have been no subsisting beneficial interest capable of being vested in the purchaser even if the contract was unconditional and therefore susceptible of specific performance. The defendants supported each of those submissions by reference to the decision of the House of Lords in *Rose v Watson* ([1864] 10 HLC 672).

The defendants did not contend that it was necessary that the contract should be specifically enforceable at the time the benefit of the lien was claimed nor when the money for which it was claimed to be security was paid, rather that unless and until the contract was specifically enforceable by the purchaser the lien could not arise.

Thus the defendants accepted, subject to their other submissions, that a lien arose when the contract became unconditional but by then it would necessarily be subject to the debenture.

It seemed to his Lordship that the defendants' argument would give rise to anomalies:

First, the lien would not be directly related to the purchaser's payments sought to be secured and would be denied in those circumstances where such protection was most required.

Second, if the lien arose at the time of and in consequence of the accrual of the right to specific performance of the contract it was hard to understand why the lien did not cease if the right to specific performance was subsequently lost. That the lien was not lost was conceded by the defendants and in any event established by *Levy v Stogdon* ([1898] 1 Ch 478).

Third, it was hard to see why the substantive right of the purchaser to a lien should depend on the availability to him of a remedy, particularly one which if successfully invoked would negate the need to rely on the right at all.

The statement of Sir George Jessel, Master of the Rolls in *London and South Western Railway Co v Gomm* ([1882] 20 ChD 562, 581) showed that a purchaser had an equitable interest or estate in land if he had a right to call for the legal estate, albeit future and conditional, which the vendor had no right to refuse.

Here the vendor was contractually bound to use his best endeavours to obtain a satisfactory planning consent on the grant of which the contract became unconditional. The equitable interest or estate of the purchaser was one which entitled him to seek specific relief in the form of injunctions so as to protect that right notwithstanding that a claim for specific performance might have been premature.

Rose v Watson clearly established that the purchaser's beneficial or equitable ownership of the property arising in consequence of a contract to purchase land which was from the outset specifically enforceable was sufficient for the creation of the purchaser's lien. It did not establish that such an interest was not only sufficient but necessary for the establishment of a lien in favour of the purchaser.

In his Lordship's judgment, the circumstances in which a purchaser's lien would arise were not limited to those in which the contract was or had been specifically enforceable but included those in which there was or had been a right to call for the legal estate whether presently, in the future or conditionally so as to give rise to the equitable interest or estate referred to in *London and South Western Railway Co v Gomm*.

His Lordship could deal with what was described as the conceptual objection more shortly

The objection, which arose from *Rose v Watson*, was to the effect that because the leasehold interest contracted to be sold had no previous separate existence, for it was to be granted on completion of the contract, the purchaser never could have been the beneficial owner of such a term even when the contract became unconditional and therefore specifically enforceable.

Once it was established that the existence of the lien was not restricted to cases where the purchaser had been entitled to specific performance, the concept on which the objection was based disappeared too. What was important was that the purchaser should have had the right, whether present, future or conditional, to call for the legal estate. It would be absurd if the lien should be denied merely because that legal estate did not exist but another out of which the vendor would grant it did.

Lord Justice Kennedy and Lord Justice Potter agreed.

Solicitors: Davies Arnold Cooper; Jay Benning & Peltz, Marble Arch.

Housing policy relevant in property transfer order

Jones v Jones

Before Lord Justice Morritt and Lord Justice Phillips

[Judgment August 29]

When the court exercised its powers under section 24 of the Matrimonial Causes Act 1973 to make property transfer orders between a husband and wife following the break up of a marriage, it was entitled to take into account the local authority's housing policy and to consider the likely effects of that policy on each of the parties.

The Court of Appeal so held when dismissing an appeal by the wife, Antonia Jones, from a decision of Judge Chalkley sitting at Andover County Court on August 1, 1996 when he reversed an order of District Judge Matthews at Aldershot and Farnham County Court on May 16, 1996 and ordered that the tenancy of a council flat at 8 Hornhatch, Chilworth, Guildford, Surrey, be transferred to the husband, Ronald Jones.

Mr Jeffrey Widdup for the wife: Miss Jennifer Shaw for the husband.

LORD JUSTICE PHILLIPS said that the wife petitioned for judicial separation in June 1995, after just 15 months of marriage, and there were now divorce proceedings. The parties were aged 52 and there were no children of the marriage. Both were on income support and during their marriage they lived together as joint tenants in the council flat. That tenancy was the only matrimonial property of significance and the issue raised was to which of them it should be transferred.

The husband was physically disabled with emphysema and a heart condition so that accommodation which required him to climb stairs was unsuitable. The flat was suitable as it was on the ground floor and had been modified for someone with disabilities.

If he was rendered homeless he would be considered to have a priority need for housing by the local housing authority and in consequence would be at or near the head of the queue for rehousing. In that respect his position differed from that of the wife, who, if she lost her home would be at the end of the queue, if indeed she would be entitled to local authority housing.

The district judge had held that that consideration weighed decisively in favour of the wife. He ordered the flat be transferred to her on her undertaking that she permitted the husband, pending rehousing, to have a shower and wash every day.

Judge Chalkley had concluded that the district judge had erred in principle and that the husband's incapacity and the fact that he had enjoyed a council tenancy for 20 years whereas the wife had only come to share the benefit as the result of a very short marriage gave the husband the edge in the contest for the tenancy. The judge had considered it contrary to public policy to reach a decision on the basis that the husband would be rehoused but the wife would not.

His Lordship said that the decision of the court as to who was to remain in what was the matrimonial home under a local authority tenancy and who was to leave it might well have consequences for the local authority housing department.

If that decision fell to be taken by the local authority it would no doubt have regard not only to the consequences on those directly affected by the decision but to the competing claims to housing of others on the housing list.

The court's primary, if not exclusive, concern when making that decision under section 24 of the 1973 Act must be the effect on those directly affected by its decision. Indeed where children were involved section 25(1) of the Act expressly so provided.

His Lordship did not see how the court could perform its duty without taking into account what would happen to those deprived of the right to live in the matrimonial home and that necessarily involved having regard to the effect of what was known of the local authority housing policy.

It was not correct to describe, as the judge had done, the effect of such an approach as being "to direct the local authority to provide a house for someone to whom it would otherwise not give a house" or "to manipulate local authority housing lists and to usurp the function of the council".

The reality was that in such a case the court and the housing authority had different but interacting duties and functions, and the court could not but have regard to the manner in which the performance by the housing authority of its functions was likely to affect the consequences of the court's decision.

The judge's reasons for reversing the district judge was wrong in principle. That meant their Lordships had now to look at the matter afresh.

Taking into account new evidence of a loan which was available to the wife and the likelihood that she could obtain adequate if modest accommodation in the private sector, the balance swung back to the husband and he ought to be permitted to retain the benefits of the tenancy he had enjoyed for so long, a tenancy that was particularly suited for his disability.

LORD JUSTICE MORRITT, agreeing, said that the dicta in *Thompson v Thompson* ([1976] Fam 25) were now plainly out of date in the light of changes made by the Housing Act 1980 to the relationship between a council and its tenant. Those provisions were reproduced in the Housing Act 1985. A local authority tenant now enjoyed security of tenure, which was specifically made assignable in the circumstances of the present case by section 91(3)(b) of the 1985 Act.

Parliament therefore evidently envisaged that the circumstances of security of tenure and its effect and the housing policy of local authorities should be matters which could be taken account of in determining whether to make an order under section 24 of the Matrimonial Causes Act 1973.

Solicitors: Ms Wendy M. Draper, Aldershot; Wheelers, Aldershot.

Council can end statement

In re B (a Minor) (Special needs)

A local education authority which had a genuine policy of educating its special needs children in school to age 16 and thereafter at a college of further education was entitled to cease to maintain the statement of special educational needs under paragraph 7 of Schedule 1 to the Education Act 1981 in respect of a child who attained 16 and ceased to be registered at his existing school.

The Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Butler-Sloss, Lord Justice Swinton Thomas and Lord Justice Pill) so held on July 30 in dismissing an appeal by a parent against a decision of Mr Justice Brooke to grant judicial review of such a decision concerning her child on the ground that the council had fettered its discretion.

LORD JUSTICE BUTLER-SLOSS said that the policy had been a genuine policy applied long before the further education funding council took over funding of those at college under the Further and Higher Education Act 1992 and therefore the instant case could be distinguished on its facts from *R v Dorset County Council, Ex parte G* (*The Times* December 30, 1994; [1995] ELR 109).

There the stance of the local education authority had been found to be a sham as its policy had been to educate those with special educational needs in the school system until 18, but after the introduction of the further education funding council it had made no further specific provision for a child and ceased to maintain his statement.

European Law Report — Luxembourg

Judgment not recognised when defendants unaware of trial

Hendrikman and Another v Magenta Druck & Verlag GmbH

Case C-78/95

Before J. C. Moitinho de Almeida, President of the Fifth Chamber and Judges C. Gulmann, D. A. O. Edward, P. Jann and M. Wathelet

Advocate General F. G. Jacobs

(Opinion July 4)

[Judgment October 10]

Where proceedings were initiated against a person without his knowledge and a lawyer appeared on his behalf but without his authority, a judgment against him given in those proceedings could not be recognised in another member state.

It was for the court from which recognition was sought to ascertain whether such circumstances existed.

The Fifth Chamber of the Court of Justice of the European Communities so held on a reference by the Hoge Raad der Nederlanden (Supreme Court of The Netherlands) for a preliminary ruling under the Protocol of June 3, 1971 on the interpretation by the Court of Justice of the Brussels Convention on Jurisdiction and the Enforcement of Judgments in Civil and Commercial Matters 1968, as amended by the Convention of October 9, 1978 on the Accession of Denmark, Ireland and the United Kingdom (OJ 1978 L304, p77).

A company whose seat was in Germany sought enforcement in The Netherlands of a judgment given by a German court against the defendants, Mr and Mrs Hendrikman, who resided at The Hague, and of an order for costs against them by another German court.

The defendants alleged that the German proceedings concerned an unpaid invoice for stationery which had been ordered on behalf of the defendants by two persons who had no authority to do so, and that those proceedings had been instituted without their knowledge.

They also alleged that those same persons instructed lawyers in the name of the defendants, but again without their authority, to represent them in the proceedings, and contended that article 27(2) of the Brussels Convention precluded enforcement in The Netherlands as the defendants had not been served with the documents instituting the proceedings and had not been validly represented before the German courts.

A Dutch court gave leave for enforcement on the ground, inter alia, that article 29 of the Brussels Convention, which provided that "under no circumstances may a foreign judgment be reviewed as to its substance", precluded that court from judging whether the German courts were entitled to assume that the conduct of the proceedings by the lawyers in question amounted to valid representation, and that the defendants could not rely on article 27(2) as their case did not concern a judgment delivered against a defendant in default of appearance.

On the defendants' appeal, the Hoge Raad referred the questions, inter alia, whether article 29 required the court of the state in which recognition was sought to refrain from inquiring whether the defendant to the proceedings in the state in which judgment was given was validly represented, even if the court of the state in which judgment was given had made no ruling in that regard, and whether article 27(2) was applicable where, although the defendant was not declared to be in default of appearance, the document instituting the proceedings or an equivalent document was not duly served on or notified to him in sufficient time and he was not validly represented in the proceedings.

Article 27 provides: "A judgment shall not be recognised: . . . (2) where it was given in default of appearance, if the defendant was not duly served with the document which instituted the proceedings in sufficient time to enable him to arrange for his defence. . ."

In its judgment the Fifth Chamber of the Court of Justice held:

Under article 27(2), a court from which recognition was sought could decline to recognise a judgment only if certain conditions were satisfied: the document instituting proceedings had not been duly served on or notified to the defendant in sufficient time, and he failed to appear in the proceedings conducted before the court first seised.

The national court, in its question on article 27(2), which would be addressed first, inquired only about the second condition.

According to settled case law, the purpose of article 27(2) was to ensure that a judgment was not recognised or enforced under the Convention if the defendant had not had an opportunity of defending himself before the court first seised.

The German Government submitted that the rights of the defence were observed even if a lawyer who was not authorised to act appeared for the defendants, because the court had to rely on what was stated by that lawyer until such time as he was shown to have no authority. That argument could not be accepted.

Where proceedings were initiated against a person without his knowledge and a lawyer appeared before the court first seised on his behalf but without his authority, such a person was quite powerless to defend himself.

That person must therefore be regarded as a defendant in default of appearance, within article 27(2), even if the proceedings before the court first seised became, in point of form, proceedings inter partes.

It was for the court from whom recognition was sought to ascertain whether those exceptional circumstances existed.

That conclusion was not affected by the fact that, under provisions of the German Code of Civil Procedure, the defendants were entitled to apply, within one month of service of the judgment and order, for their annulment on the ground of lack of representation.

The proper time for a defendant to have an opportunity to defend himself was the time at which the proceedings were commenced, and the possibility of having recourse, at a later stage, to a legal remedy against a judgment given in default of appearance, which had already become enforceable, could not constitute an equally effective alternative to defending proceedings before judgment was given.

In view of the reply to be given, accordingly, to that question, there was no need to answer the national court's question on article 29.

On those grounds the Court ruled:

Article 27(2) of the Convention applied to judgments given against a defendant who was not duly served with, or notified of, the document instituting proceedings in sufficient time and who was not validly represented during those proceedings, albeit the judgments given were not given in default of appearance because someone purporting to represent the defendant appeared before the court first seised.

THE TIMES
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LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES 0171-782 7344

PUBLIC NOTICES

ADAMS, JAMES LEONARD ADAMS late of Woolwich, London SE18 died at Greenwich, London SE10 on 10 January 1993 (Estate about £5,500)

CARO, HILDE HENRIETTE OTTILIE CARO otherwise HILDA HENRIETTE CARO otherwise HILDA CARO Spinster late of Walworth, London SE17 died at Southwark, London SE1 on 19 June 1993 (Estate about £11,500)

EVANS, ARTHUR WILLIAM EVANS late of Paddington, London W2 died there on 17 January 1996 (Estate about £5,000)

GUY otherwise JENNINGS, MILDRED ANNIE GUY otherwise MILDRED ANNIE JENNINGS Spinster late of Westerleigh Steepleton, Dorchester Dorset died there on 4 July 1996 (Estate about £300,000)

GYTE formerly NAYLOR, REGGIE HAROLD ERICK HATTERSLEY GYTE otherwise REGINARD HAROLD ERICK GYTE formerly NAYLOR late of Stockport, Cheshire died there on 21 October 1995 (Estate about £9,000)

HUNTER, MILDRED HUNTER Spinster late of South Shields, Tyne & Wear died there on 16 February 1996 (Estate about £15,000)

HUTCHINSON, HAROLD HUTCHINSON late of Nottingham died there on 25 March 1996 (Estate about £5,000)

KEANE formerly MADIGAN late Bate, nee HASLER, PAULINE MARIE KEANE formerly MADIGAN late BATES nee HASLER Widow late of Bridgwater, Somerset died there on 10 June 1996 (Estate about £9,000)

MEREDITH formerly DAVIS, IVY MEREDITH formerly DAVIS Widow late of Thames Ditton, Surrey died there on 17 September 1994 (Estate about £6,500)

MUNRO otherwise MUNROE, JAMES MUNRO otherwise JOHN MUNROE late of Sunderland, Tyne & Wear died there on 6 June 1996 (Estate about £164,000)

MORGAN, DOUGLAS PERCY MORGAN otherwise DOUGLAS MORGAN late of Harpenden, Hertfordshire died at Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire on 5 October 1994 (Estate about £5,000)

PEDRIE, JOHN PEDRIE late of Streatham, London SW2 died at Denmark Hill, London SE5 on 16 December 1995 (Estate about £250,000)

SALE, JOSEPH WALTER JAMES SALE otherwise JOSEPH SALE late of Camden, London NW1 died at Hampstead, London NW3 on 19 May 1996 (Estate about £10,000)

STANLEY nee TIMPSON, FLORENCE KATHLEEN STANLEY nee TIMPSON Widow late of Croydon, Surrey died there on 6 January 1996 (Estate about £35,000)

TEBBUTT, GLADYS TEBBUTT Spinster late of Market Harborough, Leicestershire died there on 10 February 1995 (Estate about £6,000)

The last of the above-named are requested to apply to the Treasury Solicitor (RV), Queen Anne's Chambers, 28 Broadway, London SW1H 9JS, giving which the Treasury Solicitor may take steps to administer the estate

LEGAL, PUBLIC, COMPANY & PARLIAMENTARY NOTICES
TO PLACE NOTICES FOR THIS SECTION PLEASE TELEPHONE
0171-782 7344
OR
FAX: 0171-782 7827
Notices are subject to confirmation and should be received by 2.30pm two days prior to insertion.

LEGAL NOTICES

KYODO LEASING COMPANY (UK) LIMITED
COMPANY NUMBER: 2103240
(IN MEMBERS' VOLUNTARY LIQUIDATION)
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to Rules 4.182A and 11.2 of the Insolvency Rules 1986 that the liquidator of the above company intends to make a distribution to the creditors within four months of 22 November 1996. Creditors are required to submit full details of their claims to the liquidator, Roger Smith at KPMG Corporate Recovery, PO Box 730, 20 Farringdon Street, London EC4A 4PP on or before Friday 22 November 1996 which is the last day for proving claims. The full details of claims, referred to above, must include the creditor's name and address, the amount of the claim and particulars of how and when the debt was incurred by the company. Notice is also given that the intended distribution is a final distribution and will be made without regard to any claims not made by the last day for proving claims. All funds remaining in the liquidator's hands following the final distribution to creditors shall be distributed to the shareholders absolutely.
Note: the company is able to pay all its known creditors in full.
Dated: 10 October 1996
Roger Smith - Liquidator

Notice to Creditors of Intention to Declare a Dividend Pursuant to Rule 11.2 of the Insolvency Rules 1986
JACK HOWARD JACOBS
(IN BANKRUPTCY)
High Court of Justice No. 5918 of 1988
A first and final dividend is intended to be declared within a period of four months from the date proving. The last date for creditors to prove claims in the above matter is 11th November 1996.
If you do not prove your debt by the 11th November 1996 you will be excluded from this dividend payment.
Under Rule 11.2(2) a Trustee is not obliged to deal with claims lodged after the date of proving.
Date 10th October 1996
ALAN D KENNINGHAM
Trustee
Haines Watts
4-8 Tabernacle Street
London
EC2A 4LU

OCEAN MARINE (1996) LIMITED - COMPANY NO: 1166194
OCEAN PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT LIMITED - COMPANY NO: 1995O4
THE CHINA MUTUAL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY LIMITED - COMPANY NO: 1723974
TRANSIT UK (1996) LIMITED - COMPANY NO: 1916834
WM. CORY & SON, LIMITED - COMPANY NO: 2502298
(ALL COMPANIES IN MEMBERS' VOLUNTARY LIQUIDATION)
Notice is hereby given, pursuant to Rules 4.182A and 11.2 of the Insolvency Rules 1986, that the Liquidator of the above companies intends to make a distribution to creditors within four months of 22 November 1996. Creditors are required to submit full details of their claims to the Liquidator, Roger Smith, at KPMG, PO Box 730, 20 Farringdon Street, London EC4A 4PP on or before Friday 22 November 1996, which is the last day for proving claims. The full details of claims, referred to above, must include the creditor's name and address, the amount of the claim and particulars of how and when the debt was incurred by the company.
Notice is also given that the intended distribution is a final distribution and will be made without regard to any claims not made by the last day for proving claims. All funds remaining in the Liquidator's hands following the final distribution to creditors shall be distributed to shareholders absolutely.
Note: the companies are able to pay all their known creditors in full.
Dated: 8 October 1996
R Smith - Liquidator

Notice of appointment of Administrative receiver
Badgelift Ltd t/a The Caroline Nursing Home
Registered Number: 2780623
Trading Name: Badgelift Ltd t/a The Caroline Nursing Home
Date of Appointment of Administrative Receivers: 17 September 1996
Name of person appointing the Administrative Receivers: Bank of Scotland
Names of persons appointed N.H. O'Reilly and S.B. Byman of Clareville House, 26/27 Oxendon Street, London SW1Y 4EP Office Holder Nos. 8307 and 4731 joint Administrative Receivers.

DIAL CALL CENTRES AND MARKETING LIMITED
(FORMERLY BAWN SERVICES LIMITED)
IN LIQUIDATION
RULE 4.106 OF THE INSOLVENCY RULES 1986
TAKE NOTICE THAT I, David John Mason of Moore Thompson & Co, Torrington House, 47 Holywell Hill, St Albans, Hertfordshire AL1 1HD was appointed to act as Liquidator of the above company by resolutions passed at meetings of the company's members and creditors on 10 October 1996.
DJ MASON - LIQUIDATOR
Dated this 10 day of October 1996

The Insolvency Act 1986
(A) ADVANCED TRAINING (INTERNATIONAL) LIMITED
(B) A.T. EXECUTIVE SEARCH & SELECTION LIMITED
(C) PLAN-NET A.T. LIMITED
(D) A.T. CONSULTANCY LTD
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN Pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986 that MEETINGS of the CREDITORS of the above named Companies will be held on 12th November 1996 at The Old Bakery, Lower Gower Road, Royston, Herts SG8 5EA at (A)(B) and (C) 11.00 am and (D) 12.00 noon respectively for the purposes mentioned in Section 99 et seq of the said Act.
NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that Maurice Raymond Dorrington, FIPA, of Pepperton & Appleby, 4 Charterhouse Square, London, EC1M 6EN is appointed to act as the qualified Insolvency Practitioner pursuant to Section 98(2)(a) of the said Act who will furnish creditors, free of charge, with such information concerning the Companies affairs as they may reasonably require
Dated this 11th day of October 1996
By Order of the Board
J. Bishop, Director



■ FILM 1

The magnificent *Breaking the Waves* shows the disintegration of a Hebridean life and marriage



■ FILM 2

... while *Tin Cup* finds Kevin Costner as the underdog come good in a pleasing comedy about golf

THE TIMES ARTS



■ FILM 3

Powerful and uncompromising, *Nothing Personal* is set among the paramilitaries of 1975 Belfast



■ FILM 4

... but the preposterous *Dragonheart* rehashes a string of mock-medieval clichés

CINEMA: **Geoff Brown** is stunned by a Hebridean melodrama and tees off with Costner

Caught up in human wreckage

In a fit of collective lunacy, distributors are opening 11 releases this week, which is several more than any sane critic can handle. But one film towers above them all. It looks different. It feels different. It grabs hold of the audience and sends us on an extraordinary journey of discovery. It is **Breaking the Waves**, the fifth feature of Lars von Trier, the Danish director who has previously seemed more interested in being clever than connecting with human beings. But from the first scenes where Bess, the Scottish innocent and prospective bride of an oil-rig worker, faces the frowns of her church, Trier puts people first.

The setting is a devout community in the Outer Hebrides, where the weather seems as domineering as the word of God. The visuals match the craggy landscape. The hand-held camera of Robby Müller lurches from face to face in long, sinuous takes. Aside from picture postcard shots interspersed between the film's seven numbered chapters, the images contain no throbbing colour: this is a film of dull flesh tones, of grey skies and Presbyterian black. The extreme lack of visual adornments magnifies the focus on Bess, her disapproved marriage to the worldly Jan (Stellan Skarsgård), and the extraordinary passions this provokes. Luckily, Trier's main actress, Emily Watson, never shrinks from close scrutiny: in her film debut she lays her soul bare before the camera.

In despair once Jan returns to his rig, Bess prays to God to send him home. God sends him back paralysed after an accident. Denied physical pleasures, Jan encourages his wife to have sex with strangers. The more she obeys, the more Jan is restored to health; but Jan's salvation is her own damnation, and she pays the price.

Here Trier wades into stormy waters. You don't need to be a card-carrying feminist to quake at the prospect of a simple girl dolling herself up in red PVC and fishnet stockings to do her master's bidding. Scruples have to be swallowed for the film to work its spell; and some may find this impossible. Those who succeed are rewarded with a melodrama of astonishing power; a film that holds you, sometimes painfully, in its grip for every one of 158 minutes, evoking the powers of belief, love and duty with the starkness of the best Scandinavian cinema. The script, incidentally, is published next week by Faber and Faber, price £9.99.



Getting the engaged signal: Emily Watson makes her film debut as Scottish innocent Bess heading for marriage and damnation, in Lars von Trier's *Breaking the Waves*

Breaking the Waves
Lumiere, 18, 158 mins
Stunning melodrama from Lars von Trier

Tin Cup
Warner West End, 15, 135 mins
Kevin Costner plays golf

Nothing Personal
Plaza, 15, 85 mins
Searing Belfast drama

Boston Kickout
Warner West End, 18, 105 mins
Generation X hits Stevenage

Dragonheart
Empire, PG, 103 mins
Gobbledegook with a talking dragon

The Wind in the Willows
Warner West End, PG, 88 mins
Terry Jones's hit-and-miss adaptation takes some liberties

Alaska
Warner West End, PG, 109 mins
Family adventure with an antique feel

After the rigours of *Breaking the Waves*, how about a game of golf? The man behind the golf club is Kevin Costner, though being a reckless Texan he also hits the ball with a rake, spade, shovel and baseball bat. **Tin Cup** is the movie and, despite a predictable finish, it shows a vast improvement on the last golfing comedy, *Happy Gilmore*, which never advanced much beyond balls landing on people's heads.

This is as expected, for the director and co-writer is Ron Shelton, a master of Americana with a special flair for the lingo and culture of sports. Golf gives him less to bite on than baseball (in *Bull Durham*) or basketball (*White Men Can't Jump*), but he still finds room for the usual carnival of hustlers, low-lifes and preening professionals about to be savaged by underdogs.

The underdog is Costner's role, and he fills it with a relaxed assurance that is a pleasure to watch, especially after his cardboard turn as an Ancient Mariner in *Waterworld*. The romance with Rene Russo's city psychiatrist seems dragged in to widen the film's audience and spin out the plot; but the good-natured playing brings its own compensations.

For almost the last hour we follow the progress of the US Open, as Costner snaps at the heels of Don Johnson, the pro who just happens to be Russo's boyfriend. Many pro golfers appear as themselves. But the putting greens cannot compete for authentic atmosphere with the scenes capturing Costner's town of Salome, home to dust, armadillos, the Twenty Winks Motel, the Golden Tassel, and indolent men on a coffee-shop porch. As a comedy *Tin Cup* rarely becomes uproarious, but it is never less than pleasant.

The last film by Thaddeus O'Sullivan, a gifted cameraman turned promising director, was a dour rural drama swamped with rain and kelp called *December Bride*. Nothing **Personal**, far superior, could not be more different. It thrusts us into the streets of Belfast in 1975, where Catholics and Loyalists stage running battles, bullets rip kneecaps or worse, and fires erupt into the night sky.

In place of characters weighed down with poesy, *Nothing Personal* gives us Ian Hart's Ginger, a Loyalist paramilitary who executes atrocities, then complains about the victim's blood spattering onto his blue suit. He is like a wild animal, and much of the drama in this powerful film stems from the Loyalists' attempt to cage him.

Poignancy comes from other threads in the script derived from Daniel Mornin's novel *All Our Fault*. There is the fate of Liam (John Lynch), the peaceable Catholic caught in the crossfire. There are the children roaming the streets, joining the warfare, sucked into their parents' quarrels ("Beats watching television all night," says Ruaidhri Conroy). No sides are taken; O'Sullivan's goal is to portray, without flinching, the dreadful consequences of violence and fanaticism in a divided community.

Shooting on location in Dublin, O'Sullivan and his cameraman Dick Pope create an authentic drab world of low-terraced housing, looming gasometers, and police helicopters whirling overhead. The actors play their part too. Michael Gambon redeems some recent bad performances as the Loyalist leader trying to go softly softly; Ian Hart and James Frain chill the bones as trigger-happy fanatics. This is an uncompromising film, and it concentrates the mind.

Despite the title, **Boston Kickout** takes place in Stevenage, and the local council wishes it did not. For time has moved on since the Hertfordshire new towns were blandly worshipped by newsreel cameras as the suburban dream come true. The Stevenage of Paul Hills's promising debut feature, shot in 1994, is a concrete wasteland where teenagers idle, and escape the blank future through drugs, drink, or a rampage through neighbours' gardens.

The script attempts to squeeze in too much drama as it follows the fortunes of four school leavers. One minute our hero Phil (John Simm) is urinating over bread at his bakery job; the next, we are faced with a parent's slashed wrists, a juvenile mental breakdown, or a dalliance with Phil's Irish cousin (Emer McCourt).

A few snips with the editorial scissors would help to highlight the film's best qualities: a jaunty vein of black comedy, fresh performances, and an urge to reflect how young people in Britain actually live.

After 100 minutes in Stevenage, how about an injection of fantasy? The preposterous **Dragonheart**, directed by Rob Cohen, aims for an overdose, ransacking so many myths and movies to build its story about a medieval knight (Dennis Quaid) teaming up with a noble dragon to free the country from tyranny.

If the plot prompts an enormous yawn, the special-effects dragon is worth a look, especially as he speaks with Sean Connery's voice. Slovakia provided the picturesque locations: best not to inquire what country the film is supposed to be set in.

At least in **The Wind in the Willows** we know where we are: England, land of green fields, steam trains and animals in pullovers. This is not quite Kenneth Grahame's book. Writer, director and Toad impersonator Terry Jones hauls heavy Python-esque humour into play; while the dog-food factory finale bores through overkill. Jones's cohorts include Eric Idle (Rat), Steve Coogan (Mole) and Antony Sher (Chief Weasel), but the effect they make, like the film as a whole, is very haphazard.

For more straightforward family fare you could always brave **Alaska**, where two youngsters and a lolloping bear strive to locate their father's crashed plane and ward off attack from Charlton Heston. The scenery comes up trumps, but the script is dull, and the ponderous direction of Charlton's son Fraser enhances the feeling of an antique film, lost in time.

Every week, young film fans discuss some of the latest releases ...

SNAP VERDICT

☐ *TIN CUP*

Susan Wallace, 19: Yes, they have whiter-than-golfball-white teeth. Yes, her legs are longer than the entire course. Yes, this does just about sum up the entire plot. A film about risks which takes none, but some witty scenes early on.

Elizabeth Kerr, 19: You don't have to be a golfer to enjoy this film. Kevin Costner plays a believable character with the right balance of humour.

Steve Victory, 22: Very average Costner flick – action and adventure is sparse. Definitely a rainy day film.

Tassos Stevens, 20: This is a typical American movie: the triumph of heart over head and victory for the little guy. Surprisingly entertaining.

☐ *THE WIND IN THE WILLOWS*

Susan: Brilliant casting. You wouldn't find a rattier Rat or a molier Mole in any hedgerow. With dungeons, mincing machines and dark forests, you have all the ingredients of a good horror film. Some of those weasels might just be ready for a Tarantino role.

Elizabeth: The cast was amazing and the acting superb. A children's classic well worth seeing.

Steve: The humour is sharp and absurd, the tone suitably jolly; what we've come to expect from the Python crew.

Tassos: Terry Jones here has a gamut of ex-Pythons and big comedy Brits as ingredients but throws in as many (poor) special effects as he can afford, risible songs, and ends up with an inconsistent mush.

Clean as a whistle

Any concert by David Murray feeds off the element of surprise. Not all the surprises work, but his current UK/USA Big Band has more than its fair share, and when jazz whistler Joel Brandon produced a *tour de force* solo within bars of the start of the opening *Bessie's Blues*, it was clear that Murray's magic was at work.

Brandon trained as a flautist and had a successful hobby winning competitions throughout America imitating birdsong before he brought his two talents together. "He's been to parts of the South people still don't go to, just to win these competitions," says Murray. "He has to be the greatest whistler in jazz today." There can be few challengers for this position, but

JAZZ

David Murray
Queen Elizabeth Hall

Brandon's range and intensity held their own against the formidable solos by members of Murray's American-based Octet, who had dropped into the big band line-up like seeds at Wimbledon.

For intensity, Brandon's main challenge came from Mancunian poet Lemn Sissay, who incanted his words over the full force of the big band with frenetic energy. In trumpeter Hugh Ragin's composition, *Harmolodic Architecture*, Sissay's verses were mirrored in sound pictures by the band, but the most effective poetry came in *Fire People*, Sissay contorting himself into a passionate frenzy as he squeezed out his words over Murray's composition, *Desecration Of Our Children*.

Murray's gifts as a teacher, organiser, composer and catalyst are still dwarfed by his own instrumental skills – his tenor sax and bass clarinet solos having a stamp of individuality that was matched by few of his band. He was effectively paced by David Jean-Baptiste in a sumptuous clarinet duet, and British trumpeter Byron Wallen also held his own.

Murray's democratic principles gave plenty of space for his colleagues' compositions to be heard, but in these the less successful surprises came mainly from trombonist Craig Harris, whose unaccompanied cadenza in the first half was as musically vapid as it was visually entertaining. Later he poured water on the stage while chanting the names of dead musicians in a misplaced display of self-indulgence in what was otherwise a successful example of collective collaboration.

ALYN SHIPTON







CHOICE 1

Walton's music is played by the BBC Symphony Orchestra

VENUE: Tonight at the Festival Hall



CHOICE 2

Neil Bartlett directs Shaw's *Mrs Warren's Profession*

VENUE: In preview at the Lyric, Hammersmith

THE TIMES

ARTS



CHOICE 3

In Manchester the Hallé plays works by Hector Berlioz

VENUE: Tonight, Bridgewater Hall



NEW VIDEOS

Licence renewed: Pierce Brosnan gives James Bond a sparkling new lease of life in *Goldeneye*

In double-0 seventh heaven



Famke Janssen has a crush on Pierce Brosnan's Bond in *Goldeneye*

NEW ON VIDEO

■ GOLDENEYE
MGM/UA, 15, 1995

BOND'S latest battle to save the world from destruction can now be yours to own. You can buy it neat, or collectors may prefer a special edition which includes a stainless-steel engraved Parker pen, an exclusive book, and Tina Turner singing. Either way, you also get Pierce Brosnan's sardonic twinkle, lots of self-mockery and slam-bang action. Lots of faults, too; but there is something both charming and exhilarating about this vigorous survivor from another age.

■ CITY HALL
Columbia TriStar, 15, 1995

SOMETHING is rotten in the city of New York, even with Al Pacino as mayor, as his admiring sidekick John Cusack finds out. Actors alone make this a very watchable drama, although Bridget Fonda is force-fed into the script, and the film collapses in its last stages. Director, Harold Becker. Available to rent.

■ DRAGNET
Retro Video, PG

HARDLY surprising that this famous television crime series was parodied so much, for its director and star, Jack Webb, pursued a strict formula. Matter-of-fact dialogue ("It's my job. I'm a cop"); police procedure; constant close-ups of talking faces, as Webb's Sgt Joe Friday interviews every suspect or witness to the crime. Two tapes offer six episodes from the early 1950s (the show ran from 1951 to 1959). They do not offer much drama now and their "realism" is very studio-bound, but the show did point the way forward to grittier things.

■ TOY STORY
Disney, U, 1995

THE first feature cartoon generated entirely by computers is not just a dazzling technical achievement. John Lasseter's movie also packs an emotional punch and is smart enough to appeal both to kids and adults. Tom Hanks's Everyman voice is perfect for the hero Woody, a cowboy marionette whose position as top toy is threatened by the gung-ho Buzz Lightyear, a flashy action figure. Deep inside the story lies a parable about belonging and friendship: the surface gleams with visual delights, chases, comedy, thrills and spills. Available to rent.

■ TWELVE MONKEYS
PolyGram, 15, 1996

TERRY GILLIAM'S extravaganza is unwieldy, though parts dazzle and it does take you to places no other recent film has attempted to reach. Bruce Willis is the time-traveller from the future seeking the source of a virus, Madeleine Stowe is his spunky helpmate, and Brad Pitt the loony who might hold the key. Available to rent.

GEOFF BROWN

TODAY'S CHOICE

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Marit Hargie

Moscow Philharmonic Orchestra tonight. Mark Ermler conducts a programme featuring Mussorgsky, Rachmaninov and Tchaikovsky. **Warwick Arts Centre,** University of Warwick (01203 524524). 8pm.

EDINBURGH: First of two performances here of **Scottish Opera**'s new production of *Idomeneo*, Mozart's opera based on Homer's epic poem *The Iliad*. Thomas Randle sings the title role with Lisa Milne as Ilia and Claire Rutter as Elektra. Directed by David McVicar. Antoni Ros Marbá conducts. **Festival Theatre,** Nicolson Street. (0131-529 6000) Tonight, Sat. 7.15pm

MANCHESTER: Two French composers — one 19th century, the other contemporary — are being celebrated in an evening of music by Berlioz and Dutilleux. The Hallé Orchestra under Kees Bakels perform Overture from *Le Corsaire* and three pieces from *The Damnation of Faust* by Berlioz. By Dutilleux: Violin Concerto and Timbres, espaces, mouvement. **Bridgewater Hall,** Lower Mosley Street (0161-907 9000) 7.30pm.

OXFORD: The Siobhan Davies Dance Company's autumn tour kicks off with *Affections*, a new work by Davies set to six opulent arias by Handel. Also on the programme is *Trespass*, premiered earlier this year. **Playhouse Theatre,** 11-12 Beaumont Street (01865 798600) 7.30pm.

LONDON

GROPING IN THE DARK. Second play by James Martin Charlton, author of the poetic and excellent *Fat Souls*. A guy's struggle between quiet security and hedonistic riot, with characters named Saint, Sate, Spit and the like. **Warehouse,** Dingwall Rd, East Croydon (0181-680 4060) Opens tonight, 8pm. Then Tue. 6.30pm, Wed-Sat, 8pm, Sun. 5pm

MRS WARREN'S PROFESSION Maggie Steed in the title role, with Catherine Cusack as her outraged daughter in Neil Bartlett's strongly cast production of Shaw's 1893 shocker. **Lyric,** King St, Hammersmith, W6 (0181-741 2311) Previews from tonight, 7.30pm. Opens Oct 21, 7pm

WALTON MINI-SERIES: The BBC Symphony Orchestra continues its survey of the music of Sir William Walton with a concert featuring *Sinfonia Concertante*, Symphony No 2 and *Façade*. Andrew Davis conducts. **Festival Hall,** South Bank, SE1 (0171-960 4242) 7.30pm

ELSEWHERE

COVENTRY: Dark Russian passions are being evoked in a concert by the

LONDON GALLERIES

British Museum: Mysteries of Ancient China (0171-636 1555) . . . **Brunei:** Ottoman Art (0171-637 2389) . . . **Camden Arts Centre:** Barnett Newman: Prints 1961-69 (0171-435 2643) . . . **Festival Hall:** Imagined Communities (0171-960 4242) . . . **Llewellyn Alexander:** Ray Jones, Gary Jeffrey and Cyril Mason (0171-620 1322) . . . **National:** Peter Blake; Rubens's Landscapes (0171-747 2885) . . . **The October:** Voodoo Flags (0171-242 7367) . . . **Portal:** Lizzie Riches (0171-493 0708) . . . **Redfern:** Paul Wunderlich (0171-734 1732) . . . **Whitford Fine Art:** Gerald Laing: (0171-930 9332)

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London

■ **House full, returns only**
◪ **Some seats available**
□ **Seats at all prices**

□ **ACCOMMODATING EVA.** Dilie Keane plays an illegal Albanian immigrant who takes neat revenge on the lawyer who evicts her from her flat. Tom Dulack directs Sylvia Freedman's new comedy. **King's Head,** 115 Upper Street, N1 (0171-226 1916). Tue-Sat, 8pm, mats Sat and Sun, 3.30pm

□ **ART.** Albert Finney, Tom Courtenay and Ken Stott in Christopher Hampton's translation of the Paris success by Yasmina Reza. Three great friends find themselves at odds when one buys a piece of modern art. Matthew Warchus directs. **Wyndham's,** Charing Cross Rd, WC2 (0171-369 1736) Tue-Sat, 8pm; mats Wed, 3pm, Sat and Sun, 5pm.

□ **BLINDED BY THE SUN.** Frances de la Tour, Duncan Bell and Douglas Hodge play scientists involved in a case of scientific fraud. Ron Daniels directs Stephen Poliakoff's new play. **National** (Cottesloe), South Bank, SE1 (0171-928 2252) Tonight-Sat 7.30pm; mat Sat, 2.30pm. In rep

□ **BLOOD WEDDING.** Alexandra Gilbreath and Jasper Britton play the passionate lovers in Lorca's tragedy. Tim Supple directs a new version by Ted Hughes, with music by Adrian Lee. **Young Vic,** 66 The Cut, SE1 (0171-928 6363) Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Sat (Oct 26, Nov 2), 2.30pm. Until November 2

□ **UNCLE VANYA:** Bill Bryden's starry Chichester cast: Frances Barber, Constance Cummings, Trevor Eve, Derek Jacobi, Peggy Mount, Imogen Stubbs, and Richard Johnson. **Albery,** St Martin's Lane, WC2 (0171-369 1730) Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mats Wed and Sat, 3pm. Until November 16

□ **WHEN WE ARE MARRIED.** Dawn French, Alison Steadman and Leo McKern head the splendid cast of Jude Kelly's production of the Priestley evergreen, first seen at Chichester. **Savoy,** Strand, WC2 (0171-836 8888). Tue-Sat, 7.30pm; mats Wed, Sat, 3pm

□ **DIAL "M" FOR MURDER:** Wife-killing thriller, written when phone numbers still included letters — and its old-age is self-evident. **Apollo,** Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5070) Mon-Fri, 8pm, Sat 8.15pm; mats Thurs, 3pm, Sat, 5pm.

□ **LAUGHTER ON THE 23RD FLOOR:** Neil Simon's funny account of working among a team of scriptwriters for comedian Sid Caesar back in the 1950s. Gene Wilder plays Sid. **Queen's,** Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5040) Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Wed, 2.30pm, Sat 4pm

□ **MOJO:** Second chance to see the multi-award-winning Jez Butterworth's hair-raising play, set in Soho gangland. Ian Rickson directs a new cast. **Royal Court Theatre Downstairs (Duke of York's),** St Martin's Lane, WC2 (0171-565 5000) Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mat Sat, 3.30pm

LONG RUNNERS

□ **Blood Brothers:** Phoenix (0171-369 1733) . . . ◪ **Buddy:** Strand (0171-930 8800) . . . □ **Cats:** New London (0171-405 0072) . . . □ **Don't Dress for Dinner:** Duchess (0171-494 5070) . . . ◪ **Grease:** Dominion (0171-416 6060) . . . □ **An Ideal Husband:** Old Vic (0171-928 7616) . . . ◪ **Jolson:** Victoria Palace (0171-834 1317) . . . ◪ **Les Misérables:** Palace (0171-434 0909) . . . ◪ **Miss Saigon:** Drury Lane (0171-494 5400) . . . □ **The Mousetrap:** St Martin's (0171-836 1443) . . . ◪ **Oliver!:** Palladium (0171-494 5020) . . . □ **The Woman in Black:** Fortune (0171-836 2238)

Ticket information supplied by Society of London Theatre

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ◆) on release across the country

ABC Tottenham Court Road (0171-636 6148) **Barbican** ◪ (0171-638 8891) **Clapham Picture Hse** (0171-498 3323) **Gate** ◪ (0171-727 4043) **Odeons: Haymarket** (01426 915353) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **Screen/Baker St** (0171-935 2772) **Screen/Green** (0171-226 3520) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0990 888990) **Virgin Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Warner** ◪ (0171-437 4343)

◆ **JACK** (PG): Joys and pains of a child with an aging disorder, played by Robin Williams. Flat and mawkish comedy from director Francis Coppola. **Odeons: Kensington** (01426 914666) **Leicester Square** (01426 915583) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0990 888990) **Virgin Chelsea** (0171-352 5096)

◆ **LONE STAR** (15): John Sayles's absorbing and humane drama about lives in the Rio Grande. **Curzon W E** (0171-369 1722) **Notting Hill Coronet** ◪ (0171-727 6705) **Renoir** (0171-837 8402) **Richmond** (0181-332 0030) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121) **Screen/Hill** ◪ (0171-435 3366) **Virgin Chelsea** (0171-352 5096)

CURRENT

◆ **JUDE** (15): Vigorously depressing version of Hardy's novel about dashed hopes and illicit love, with Christopher Eccleston and Kate Winslet.

◆ **THE NUTTY PROFESSOR** (12): Lively if vulgar rewording of the old Jerry Lewis film, with Eddie Murphy as the misfit professor who creates a sleek alter ego. Director, Tom Shadyac. **Clapham Picture House** (0171-498 3323) **Empire** ◪ (0990 888 990) ◪ **MGM Baker Street** (0171-935 9772) **Odeon Kensington** (01426 914666) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0990 888990) **Virgins: Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636) **Trocadero** ◪ (0171-434 0031)

◆ **A TIME TO KILL** (15): White lawyer defends black man, and the Ku Klux Klan wake up. Powerful adaptation of John Grisham's novel. With Samuel L. Jackson, Matthew McConaughey and Sandra Bullock. **Odeon Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0990 888990) **Virgins: Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636) **Haymarket** (0171-839 1527) **Trocadero** ◪ (0171-434 0031) **Warner** (0171-437 4343)

THE TRUTH ABOUT CATS AND DOGS (15): Pleasant romantic comedy about mistaken identity, with Janeane Garofalo, Uma Thurman and Ben Chaplin. Director, Michael Lehmann. **ABC Panton Street** (0171-930 0631) **Plaza** ◪ (0990 888990)

NEW RELEASES

BROTHERS IN TROUBLE (15): Resonant drama about illegal immigrants in Sixties Britain, with Om Puri and Angeline Ball. **ABC Tottenham Court Road** (0171-636 6148) **Metro** (0171-437 0757)

NEW CLASSICAL CDs: Loewe's bicentenary; Weill on the Great White Way; Mahler in love

VOCAL

Hilary Finch

■ LOEWE
Lieder und Balladen
Schmidt/Garben
CPO 999 253-2★★

THE bicentenary of the birth of the German composer Carl Loewe has stimulated a *Festschrift* of recorded recitals, forming a complete edition of his songs and ballads: the first four volumes on CPO are revelatory. Loewe was two months older than Schubert and outlived him by 40 years: his *Erlkonig* is just as startling as Schubert's, though Loewe's *Ganymed* — earthbound charm to Schubert's ecstasy — epitomises the difference.

With their striking melodies, often lurid piano parts and taste for the ghoulish, Loewe's songs make their effect at once, or not at all. Andreas Schmidt (Vol 1) leaps to the challenges of Loewe's national ballads, while mezzo-soprano Iris Vermillion is entrusted in Vol 2 (999 318-2) with the longer "legends".

Roman Trekel's elegant baritone enjoys the real rarities of Vol 3 (999 304-2); and Vol 4 (999 260-2), dominated by Loewe's Op 62 *Ruckert* cycle, is slightly under-characterised by the soprano Gabriele Rossmanith. Cord Garben accompanies.

MUSICALS

John Higgins

■ WEILL
Kurt Weill on Broadway
Hampson/London Sinfonietta/McGlinn
EMI 7243 5 55563 2★★★

THOMAS HAMPSON pays his second visit on disc this year to the Great White Way. Here he homes in on Kurt Weill and, with conductor John McGlinn, opts for some of the less familiar scores.

Half the playing time goes to *The Firebrand of Florence*, a virtually forgotten work which was the nearest Weill came to operetta. It managed only 43 performances on Broadway but contains some good numbers, including *You Have To Do What You Do Do*. The Hampson swagger, with such British singers as Donald Maxwell and Simon Keenlyside in tow, suggests it could be revived.

Ira Gershwin wrote the words. Among Weill's other lyricists are Ogden Nash, Maxwell Anderson and Alan Jay Lerner. In shows such as *One Touch of Venus* and *Love Life* they wrote verses that Hampson relishes. Weill's first completely American show, *Johnny Johnson*, is surprisingly put last. The hero has a haunting number, with Weill still in Berlin cabaret style. Elsewhere he tries to be the all-American boy and in Hampson he has just that sort of guy to interpret him.

ORCHESTRAL

Barry Millington

■ MAHLER/ SCHOENBERG
Adagietto from Symphony No 5; Verklärte Nacht, etc
Smithsonian Chamber Players/Slowik
Deutsche Harmonia Mundi 05472 77374 2★★★

IT IS by now reasonably well known that the Adagietto from Mahler's Fifth Symphony, popularised by Visconti's film *Death in Venice*, was actually intended by the composer as a declaration of love to his future wife, Alma. Since we know this from a marking in the score belonging to Willem Mengelberg, it is fascinating to have the opening minute of Mengelberg's 1926 recording alongside the reading of the Smithsonian Chamber Players on this imaginatively planned disc.

Under the direction of Kenneth Slowik, the Smithsonians have mastered the elastic tempos, the ebb and flow of early 20th-century style, playing instruments of the period and applying generous portamentos. The lean sound of gut strings tends towards the undernourished to modern ears, but the performance is entirely convincing in both mood and idiom.

Schoenberg's *Verklärte Nacht* is similarly well paced, its textures astringent but clear. The composer's own programme notes, with musical examples, are read in the original English by his secretary, Richard Hoffmann. In addition to Mahler's arrangement for string orchestra of Beethoven's F Minor Quartet, Op 95, this exemplary disc contains two more Mahlerian extracts in performances by Bruno Walter.

★ *Worth hearing*
★★ *Worth considering*
★★★ *Worth buying*

EVENTS

SIR PETER USTINOV will become President of **The Players Theatre** on its 60th Anniversary, Sun 20th Oct, 8.15 at The Savoy Theatre WC2. Cabaret by Stars of The Players. Tkts (1 price £25) (mems £15) ONLY from The Players Tel 839 1134

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ROYAL OPERA HOUSE 0171 304 4000 for Box Office & Standby info. Tickets available on the day. **The Royal Opera** Sat 4.00 **GOTTERDAMMERUNG** **The Royal Ballet** Tomor (First Night), Tue 7.30 Ashton's **LA VALSE**/Wheeldon's **PAVANE POUR UNE INFANTE DEFUNTE**/MacMillan's **LA FIN DU JOUR**/Ashton's **DAPHNIS AND CHLOE** Wed 7.30 (First Night) **ROMEO AND JULIET**

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CAMBRIDGE 494 5080/416 6060 344 4444/420 0000 (+ bkg fee) Groups 494 5454 416 6075/413 3321/436 5588 **GREASE** **FROM 24 OCTOBER**

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■ THEATRE

Tom Courtenay joins Albert Finney and Ken Stott in a new 'minor classic', *Art*



■ MUSIC

Peter Maxwell Davies steers the RPO through a thrilling account of his superb Seventh Symphony

THE TIMES
ARTS



■ DANCE

Steps ancient and modern: Shobana Jeyasingh turns the oldest choreography into something new



■ TOMORROW

The return of the indestructible Donovan, plus the latest CDs — all reviewed on the pop page

THEATRE: Friendship and *Art* mix beautifully; Disney wobbles into the barriers

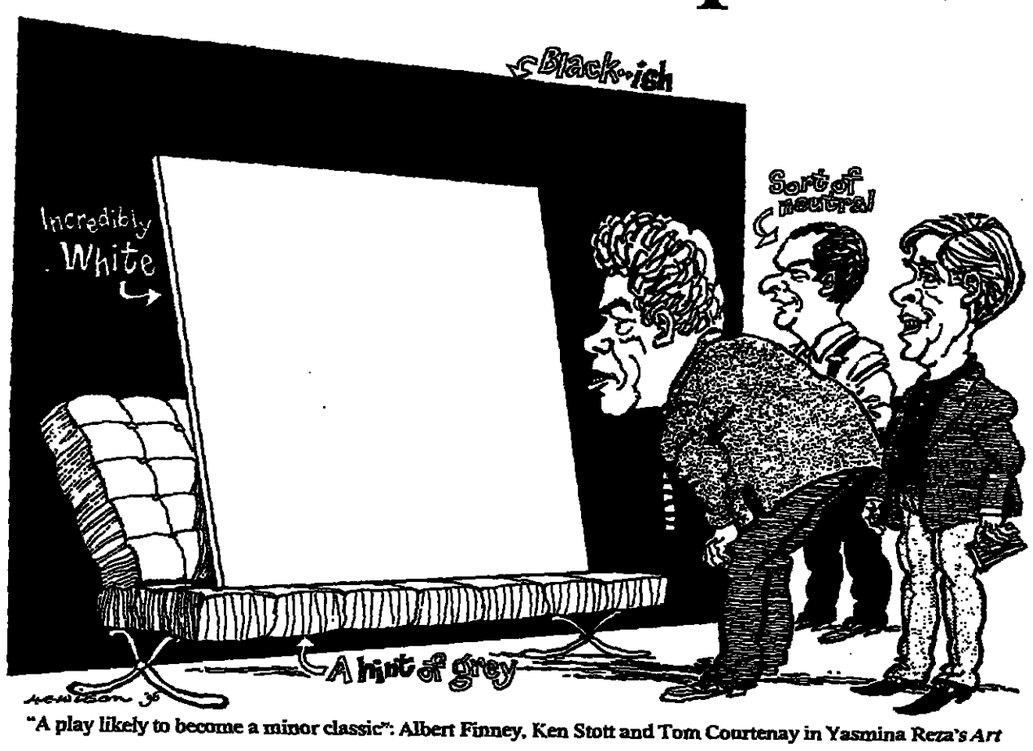
Bittersweet on the palette

The picture might be titled *Snowscape* or *Absolute Purity* or *The Triumph of Washing Powder* or *Blanc de Blanc* or *The Thoughts of a Polar Bear*. At any rate, it is a large white rectangle, unadorned by anything except what we are implausibly told are white diagonal lines running across it and a horizontal white line near the bottom. It is, in short, a sort of nothing — yet it is enough both to turn close friends into enemies and to sustain a remarkably wise, witty and elegant comedy.

Art
Wyndham's

Yasmina Reza's *Art* has conquered much of Europe since its opening in Paris, and will surely do the same to London, especially as Matthew Warchus, who directs, has assembled a topnotch cast. Tom Courtenay is Serge, the earnest dermatologist who has just spent 200,000 francs on a painting that makes late Rothko seem as busy as Breughel. Albert Finney is his best friend Marc, a hearty, extrovert aeronautical engineer whose first reaction to this expensive acquisition is to cackle with unseemly mirth. Ken Stott is Yvan, something small in the stationery business and, it turns out, almost equally small in the hearts of his supposed chums.

The row that duly erupts between Serge and Marc, with Yvan haplessly half-agreeing with both from the sidelines, at first involves the painting itself. Serge believes he has invested wisely in an artist, one Antios, who is admired in the best Paris galleries and even hangs in the Pompidou Centre, and by doing so he is "playing my part in the fundamental dynamic of evolution".



"A play likely to become a minor classic": Albert Finney, Ken Stott and Tom Courtenay in Yasmina Reza's *Art*

Marc thinks his friend worships novelty for its own sake and has squandered a small fortune on rubbish. The conflict seems to be between cultural pretension and philistinism, with thoughts about the art-trade, the subjectivity of taste, and other matters that regularly bubble up.

You might think, then, that *Art* blends one of Sacha Guitry's boulevard comedies with Timberlake Wertenbaker's attack on art-as-commodity, *Three Birds Alighting in a Field*. In fact, it is just as much a mix of Harold Pinter and Jules Feiffer, whose plays and cartoons took such glee in the emotional knots of the over-sophisticated. The picture brings out tensions that are already festering in an old friendship. Try as Serge and Marc may to stop themselves, feelings of rejection and anger surface on both sides. Power, dominance and control are also much involved. So is resentment at the half-noticed, half-ignored changes that occur in all relationships, male as well as female. By the time Finney's raging Marc leaps for his throat, Courtenay's wintry Serge has managed to say unforgivable things about him, his wife, everything. A disagreement about art is in danger of going nuclear.

Before it reaches an ending that should satisfy those with a due regard for both friendship and modern art, the play has deftly raised issue after issue. To what extent does caring for a person mean accepting his tastes? To what extent does a person actually consist of his opinions? To what extent should friendship mean evading, fibbing and/or trying to adjust one's own beliefs to someone else's? With Courtenay and Finney at their sharpest, and Stott hilarious yet touching as a blundering piggy-in-the-middle, these aren't just abstract questions. They are central to a play that strikes me as likely to become a minor classic.

BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE

● *This review appeared in later editions of* The Times *yesterday*

Layers of language

FOR the past eight years Shobana Jeyasingh has been making beautiful and intelligent dances in a style that was born in the classical traditions of South India and matured under the influence of contemporary Western dance. But with her latest piece, *Palimpsest*, given its premiere at the Nottingham Playhouse on Tuesday night, Jeyasingh has left tradition behind, forging a dazzling and totally distinct movement language that obeys no one's rules but her own.

Like the first layer of a palimpsest, the old writing of Jeyasingh's Bharatha Natyam schooling is only just visible through the layers of new dance that have been added to its roots. The strong, rhythmically emphatic feet, the splayed fingers and the squatting, diamond-shaped legs of Bharatha Natyam peek through the choreography only to be painted over with a much more sweeping dynamic. The entire body is liberated, the focus moves from the extremities into the torso, enlarging the work's emotional heart and giving the ensemble an effusive physicality.

Like Graham Fitkin's commissioned score, the choreography suggests a variety of creative impulses all taking place at the same time. The varying strands meet, feed off each other and then disappear as one idea sparks another in Jeyasingh's mesmerically constructed overlays. The six dancers huddle in whispered confidences, secure in their exclusively female universe. When they suddenly look over their shoulders, as if aware that the outside world is eavesdropping, you get the feeling that they can sense the brushstroke of yet another layer about to be added to the parchment. Keith Khan's classy pastel set and costumes reinforce the ambiguity, suggesting that the manuscript isn't finished yet.

Palimpsest (which was presented with the support of the Paul Hamlyn Foundation) is part of a double bill. The other half is a revival of *Romance . . . with Footnotes* from 1993. This is one of Jeyasingh's most evocative works, a strange landscape of contrasts set to Glyn Perrin's score for bass clarinet and three cellos.

The footnotes are the principles of Bharatha Natyam which ground the choreography in academic form; the romance is the mystery and serenity which give the choreography its mood. There are snappy sentences of complex rhythms set against languid paragraphs that sail up and over the pulse like a melody, as Jeyasingh's lovely women, so pristine yet imaginatively daring, indulge their curiosity for adventurous movement. Jeyasingh has a wonderful eye for shapes, positioning dancers in exquisite sculptural formations. The gorgeous lighting is by Michael Hulls.

DEBRA CRAINE



The dazzling Shobana Jeyasingh Dance Company

DANCE

Shobana Jeyasingh
Nottingham Playhouse

Keep the mice on ice

Walt Disney's World on Ice
Wembley Arena

ONE OF the 20th century's great mysteries is how American citizens came to believe they were adequately represented by an impotent mouse for whom white gloves are a significant fashion statement. But there it is, and here he is, along with other creatures from the Disney menagerie, skimming across the ice in a mishmash of a show produced by Kenneth Feld, who shares the blame for an increasingly tedious evening with Jerry Bulik, listed as Theatrical Director, Writer, Musical Director and Vice President (Creative Development).

When Donald Duck emerges from the far curtain and skates towards us, the sight of this eccentric bird in his trouserless naval cadet's uniform is undeniably endearing, but it's then a matter of what you do with the creature over the next two hours. Mr Bulik does nothing more than get him to read Prince Charming's proclamation on the eve of the Ball. Mr and Mrs Mouse are offered more testing roles, and a gruesome sight it is when Minnie, dressed as Cinderella in mauve, steps from her apology for a coach that looks like a hoop balanced on a squashed wedding cake.

If I had been Mr Bulik I would have done wonders with the earlier transformation scene by having one Minnie, dressed in rags, skate off behind the curtain and another Minnie, glittering in diamonds, skate out from the other side. Instead, the scene just ends with Fairy Godmother saying "Bibbety bobbety boo," and on come the dancing humans. It's a real let-down.

In the first half the focus is upon the familiar cartoon figures, Alice, Baloo, the Sorcerer's Apprentice, and the scenes putting them through their tricks are not extended with needless dance routines. The broomsticks whirl round and round but that's their character, though no attempt is made to build excitement by reproducing their nightmarish increase in numbers.

After the interval the show drifts into an unfunny, unspectacular Wild West routine no different from the sort of stuff offered in any old ice show. Ryan McKinnon, dressed as Zorro, jumps over barrels with amazing grace, though I don't know what Zorro is doing with Disney. Most of the photographs in the £5 souvenir programme relate to a different show, as does the list of scenes. The sprightly Mowgli wears a flesh-coloured body stocking without nipples. Really creepy.

JEREMY KINGSTON

CONCERTS: Maxwell Davies and Berio set the standard

Thrill of the newish

TWO London concerts on consecutive nights featured up-to-the-minute works by Luciano Berio and **Peter Maxwell Davies**, a rare treat when the label "contemporary music" can mean anything written in the second half of this century. Even better, Maxwell Davies's Sixth Symphony was receiving its fourth performance since its premiere as many months ago, another event worth noting when new pieces can wait a long time to be repeated.

But the stirring Sixth deserves this attention. After this series of performances and a visit to the recording studio, all conducted by the composer, the **Royal Philharmonic Orchestra** is truly "inside" the work: this was a performance that made every note in the 50-minute score count. The playing was fluid enough to reveal the distorted but sensuous lyricism, and tight in the violent percussion eruptions. Dark sonorities evoke the coldest of elements, but in this spacious score there is also room for dancing high spirits and calm reflection.

The poor audience turnout was surprising, given the popularity of the "sweeteners". Mendelssohn's overture *Calm Sea and Prosperous Voyage* and the Piano Concerto No 1 by Tchaikovsky. Both were distinctly underwhelming in performances that needed tighter control: Maxwell Davies's conducting lacked authority, although he was not helped by Barry Douglas's blustery approach to the concerto.

BACK from the Berio seventieth birthday festivities in Milan, the **London Sinfonietta** gave six UK premieres in the course of its *Berio and his Contemporaries* concert on the South Bank. The highlight was Berio's own *Kol-od (Chemins VI)*, a reworking of his solo trumpet *Sequenza X* as a work for trumpet and chamber orchestra.

Brutal fanfares played (by Gabriele Cassone) against a mostly smooth accompaniment make up this exuberant, colourful score, conducted with meticulous care by **Markus Stenz**.

In his unique set of virtuoso pieces for solo instruments, Berio has just reached *Sequenza XIII* for accordion; almost as new, *Sequenza XII*, for bassoon, reached us last week with Pascal Gallois as the player, and at nearly 30 minutes' duration it must be the longest in the series — perhaps too long, in fact. It is nevertheless a remarkably concentrated score, with sustained notes slipping via wavering pitches into wild little dances.

Berio's stature was only underlined by the Franco Donatoni and Niccolò Castiglioni pieces played alongside. Donatoni's *Flans* may be a witty vocal setting and his *Flag* explores blocks of sound effectively, but neither speaks with much individuality.

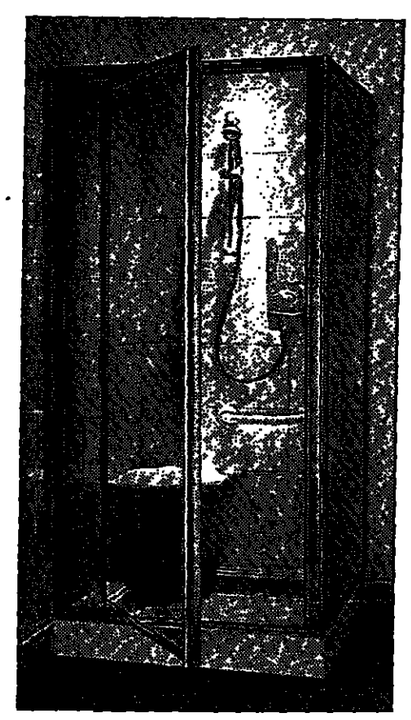
Castiglioni's *Risognanze* is a collection of 15 rather arid miniatures, making one all the more grateful for his *Cantus Planus*, mystical poems (sung by Sarah Leonard and Teresa Shaw) set to music of ravishing delicacy.

JOHN ALLISON

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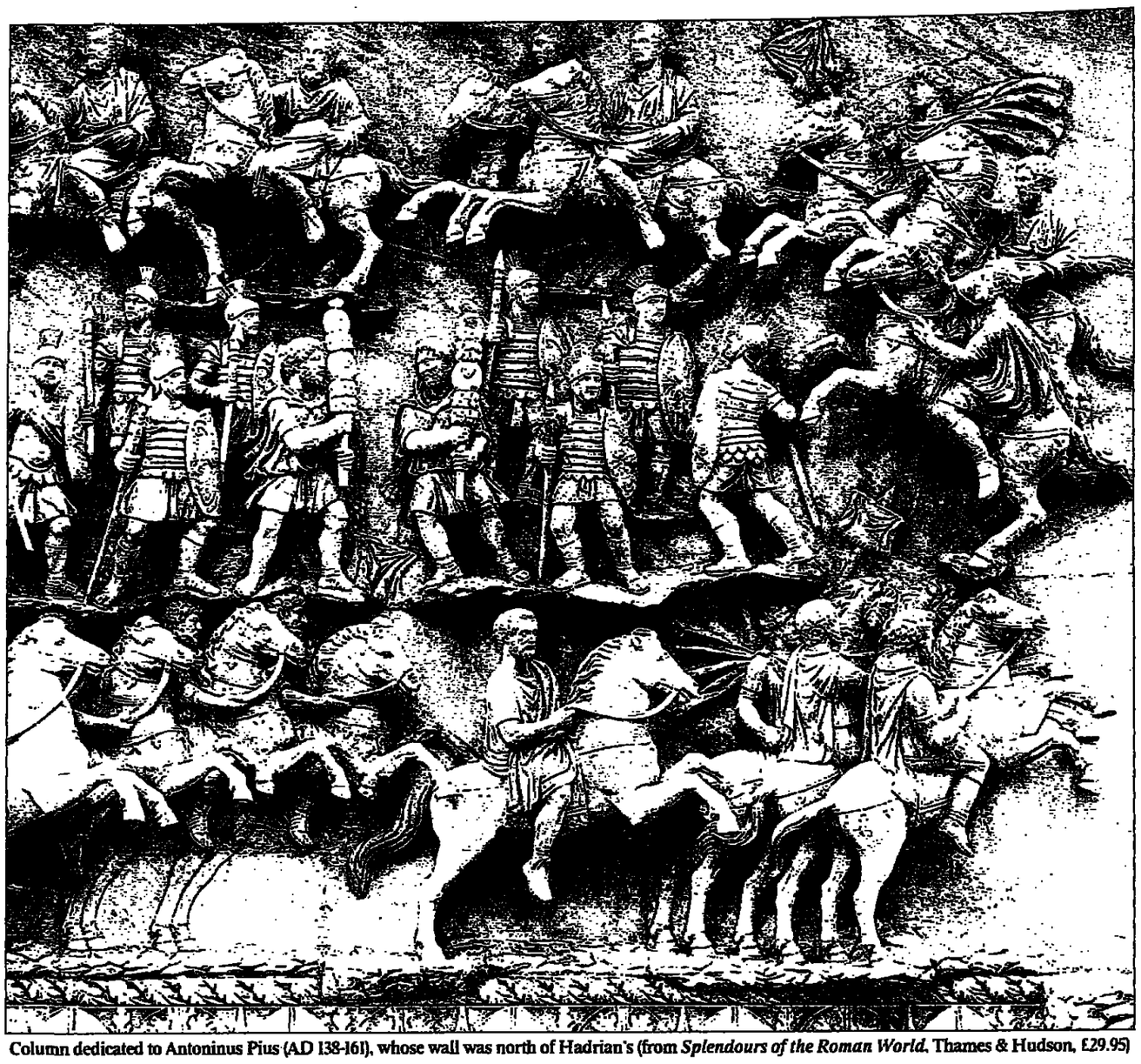
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East from Hadrian's Wall, **Peter Stothard** follows Rome's emperors on a journey to the frontiers of sanity

An empire ringed with walls of fear



Column dedicated to Antoninus Pius (AD 138-161), whose wall was north of Hadrian's (from *Splendours of the Roman World*, Thames & Hudson, £29.95)

THE REACH OF ROME
A History of the Roman Imperial Frontier 1st-5th Centuries AD
By Derek Williams
Constable, £25
ISBN 0 09 476540 5

Once upon a time there were two she-bears called Gold Dust and Innocence who lived outside the bedroom of a Roman emperor. They were extremely happy, especially Innocence, because anyone whom the Emperor Valentian suspected of plotting against him (and that was almost everyone) was thrown alive into their cage. But still they yearned for freedom and a normal family life. So finally their master, anxious that Innocence should have the chance to produce cubs as fierce as herself, took her off into the forest and let her go.

This charming story of life and death in the late 4th century AD comes down to us courtesy of Ammian, the last great ancient writer of history. It follows an equally striking passage about Valentian's Eastern emperor brother, Valens, which involves racks, whips, a magic metal plate, a tripod of twigs and several hundred torture victims who would have been infinitely more comfortable in the arms of Gold Dust and her friend.

Ammian, a Syrian Greek from Antioch, has been described as "the greatest literary genius between Tacitus and Dante". Gibbon relied on him. Modern writers of newspaper profiles owe a debt to his character sketches. But, except for a few bravura passages, he is not much read today.

Thus it is good to see the approval he gains in this new book from a successor in Roman imperial studies. Derek Williams's title may not suggest a gripping entertainment: *The History of the Roman Frontier* threatens a plodding march of the mind around walls and encampments. But the author does more than show where Rome fortified its boundaries; his story is how the hubristic paranoia of emperors, from Augustus to Valentian, both created Rome's frontiers and opened them to decline and fall.

The armed Roman frontier is most familiar to the British from Hadrian's Wall. It is a familiar concept, too, to those who have witnessed the divided Europe of the 20th century. Ammian, who lived in the East where Williams guides us along lesser-known defences, had no doubt that walls were the best policy: Valentian's regrettable choice of bear-food was more than compensated for by his sagacity on the Western front, his recognition that "it was a greater service to keep the barbarians in check by frontier barriers than to defeat them in battle".

A fortified boundary had not always, however, been central to Rome's security. In the years when the city was fastest expanding its power, its most famous generals believed in mobile warfare, the ability to strike, like Julius Caesar in Gaul, with overwhelming force at the point where the enemy was least expecting. Aggressive, mobile attacking forces also provided defence in depth against a potential invader. A thin line of troops strung out along a frontier was, by contrast, only as strong as its weakest point, demanding huge expense in manpower and giving a poor return on the investment.

There were some advantages in a walled empire, of course. Individual cities did not need expensive fortifications as long as the frontier held. Every civilian citizen of Rome could confidently concentrate on business or pleasure without the bother of bearing arms. A wall could even reassure neighbours that Rome had no hostile intent beyond it: Williams gives a persuasive account of how Hadrian's Wall was built with imperious disregard of defensive requirements but spectacular potential for showing where Hadrian's British interest ended.

But the most pervasive reason for promoting a policy of armed frontiers was none of these. Augustus never forgot that he had become the first Roman Emperor by force in a civil war. In order that he should not himself be toppled by a fellow general he wanted Rome's soldiers spread far away from home. And as Williams puts it: "All the early and many of the late emperors would follow his lead, not in deference to Augustus's memory, but because they shared his fears".

During that time the Empire would sometimes expand (as in the pointless invasion of Britain by the publicity-seeking emperor, Claudius) and sometimes contract (as in Hadrian's masterly abandonment of Mesopotamia and the northern Danube). But the fundamental principle remained: troop concentrations tended to be more dangerous to the leader of the Roman Empire than they were to his enemies. Even on the farthest borders, troops were best kept busy building walls for the glorification of the Emperor. A million man-hours went into Hadrian's folly, Williams estimates.

By the time of Valentian and Valens the Roman frontiers were looking about as reliable as the Maginot Line. But no one could grasp the great strategic problem of the age. Ammian provides a vivid description of Valentian's death: the Emperor boils over with rage against German protesters who are complaining about a boundary construction; he is struck dumb, turns red, sweats, grinds his teeth and wholly fails to match the late-life peace of his favourite killer bear. Valens, the blood-thirsty brother, has a no less nasty end.

In the end it was left to the conical-headed Hun to show up the Roman frontier for what it had become. The Hun drove on the Goths and in AD 410 the city which had captured the world was itself captured. Innocence's grandchildren had new masters to serve. The paranoid imperial classes had finally something to be properly paranoid about. None of them lived happily ever after.

The author is Editor of The Times.

Still but deadly waters

Anguilla is the forlorn outpost of a world-weary civilisation. The last of the inhabited islands in the Leeward chain, it is a long, flat, featureless lump of scrub-covered coral. For tourists travelling in the Caribbean it is where the island-hopping stops. But few come there. The new hotels which straggle the beaches are still windowless concrete husks. And beyond, out in the sparkling waters of the Anegada Passage, the hammerhead sharks cruise, unseen and unsleeping.

In *Tropical Darkness*, his third novel, David McLaurin

Rachel Campbell-Johnston

TROPICAL DARKNESS
By David McLaurin
Duckworth, £14.99
ISBN 0 7156 2735 X

returns to the West Indies where he himself grew up. The island of Anguilla stands as a stark symbol of jaded hedonism. It is a refuge for disconsolate dreamers, a resort for futile hope. And if the island setting — isolating, as it does, a disparate gathering of people in artifical circumstances — is felt to be too convenient a fictional device, McLaurin is content at first to let the contrivances strain at the seams.

Duxbury, a malignly manipulative Prospero, commands centre stage. A former Oxford don with a chill intelligence, he is darkly handsome and unassailably detached. His elder daughter, Caroline, lives with him on the island. Plain, with unexpectedly short hair and a severe, if not unpleasant, moon-shaped face, her sensitivity has been subjugated to practicality and sound common sense. Her sister Artemis, in contrast, has a rich golden beauty. But she is as slim and pale and hard as a marble statue, indifferent to the vagaries of publicopinion, to the platitudes or censorships of praise or blame.

The Duxbury family, together with a large, ungainly Anglican canon — a refugee from women priests and a domineering sister in Basingstoke — and Judy, the hard-drinking owner of the local beach-bar, are the principal inhabitants of Anguilla until a yacht weighs anchor in the bay. Charles, the lassadaisical scion of a wealthy English family, and his parasitical friend Gianni, a sultry Italian playboy, step ashore.

McLaurin casualy throws together the ingredients of a romantic melodrama and idly stirs it. His skill lies in the wait. It is only gridually, as events slowly simmer, that the deeper convictions and ideas which motivate his characters congeal. Almost inperceptibly the reader find: that, all shallow expectations overturned, the novel is confronting such primal concepts as the nature of gooc and evil, as religion and faitllessness, as the ideals and despairs, the desires and disilusionments which inform all human relationships.

Romantic convention has served all the while as bait for the sharks. The gleaming underbelly of an inescapable past glitters menacingly through the murk of each character's memory. The future gazes at them with a blick and pitiless eye.

With sharp insight, McLaurin slits the skin of expectation and lets the viscera of romance com: tumbling out. *Tropical Darkness* is an everted love story which explores an implacabl: world where to live without love is the slowest form of suicide.

Rock-a-bye job

Eric Lomax

THE ADMIRAL'S BABY
By Laurens van der Post
John Murray, £19.99
ISBN 0 7195 5742 9

This is the long-promised sequel to Sir Laurens's *Night of the New Moon*, which deals with his experiences as a prisoner of war in Java between 1942 and 1945.

The Admiral's Baby is a much more extensive memoir and is an account of Sir Laurens's work in a remarkable postwar operation, the British occupation of Java, 1945-46. Sir Laurens promised to write it while on board *HMS Cumberland*, anchored off Tandjong Priok, probably on September 19, 1945.

August 21, 1945, was one of those dates which is very special to the people concerned. It is the starting point of this extraordinary story.

In the morning Sir Laurens was the senior British Army officer in a PoW camp of 7,000 men, prisoners of the Japanese, at Bandoeng, in Java. In the afternoon, after a summons to appear in front of the local Japanese commanders, he was invited to assume virtual command of the Japanese forces in Java. He commenced his new career by issuing orders for the release of the British and Australian servicemen and for Japanese troops to protect the Dutch PoWs and civil internees from the Indonesian nationalists who had declared independence from The Netherlands four days previously.

It is unlikely that any British Army officer has ever before had such an incredible change of status in a matter of hours.

He immediately launched what was almost a one-man campaign to maintain as much peace as was possible. The Dutch had thought that they were going to resume government on the prewar basis. The Indonesians were having none of it. This was serious, for there were 55 million Indonesians.

IMPERIAL WAR MUSEUM



British prisoners released in Java, 1945

Sir Laurens describes how help slowly began to arrive. Not until about September 12 did a heavy cruiser, *HMS Cumberland*, slip into Tandjong Priok. Sir Wilfred Patterson, the Admiral of the title, was in command. The British occupation of Java had begun. Over two weeks later the first British troops arrived. The British forces were eventually built up to a strength of 92,000 men, an astonishing figure.

Meanwhile the systematic murder of Europeans began in Sourabaya: this soon turned into real warfare, with heavy casualties, British, Dutch and Indonesian.

Sir Laurens describes his months of struggles as a military-political officer, continually trying to bring together the opposing factions and trying to get the Dutch traditionalists to scale down their attempts at reimposing colonial status. And, as if all that was not enough, he struggled to protect the 70,000 Dutch PoWs and civil internees who were still in real trouble. His life during his two years of office was a continuous sequence of travel, not only within Java but as far afield as London and The Hague.

This outstanding book is essentially a personal memoir, emotional and sometimes self-congratulatory, rather than history. I am not sure whether to congratulate Sir Laurens on his devotion to duty or to sympathise with him. Who else would have stepped out of a PoW camp, where he had been organising the collection of stones with which to defend the inmates in the event of an attempted Japanese massacre, into a military and diplomatic appointment with the eyes of the world upon him? Who else would have toiled thus with not a day's leave and without seeing his mother or his family?

While many will disagree with the author's views on war crimes trials or his admiration for the top politicians of the postwar Labour Government, this book is a major contribution to our knowledge of a postwar episode, the British occupation of Java, about which so little has been published.

On active duty

Ian McIntyre

FORD MADOX FORD
A Dual Life
Volume II, The After-War World
By Max Saunders
OUP, £35
ISBN 0 19 212608 3

WHEN Volume One of this biography appeared earlier this year I was inclined to reserve judgment, fearing mainly that the density of the writing would be a barrier. Now that it is possible to review the work in its entirety, my reservations are removed. This is an outstanding Life and a major contribution to literary scholarship.

Volume Two begins and ends in France. Ford arrived there in the summer of 1916 as a second lieutenant in the Welch Regiment, sailing up the Seine in a riverboat as far as Rouen — a fellow officer remembered him as "a big, florid, unhealthy-looking man of about 40".

Twenty-three years later, only months before the outbreak of the Second World War, he died in the Clinique St François at Deauville and was buried in the cemetery on the cliffs. He had spent his final years with the Polish-American painter Janice Biala. When she moved back to France in 1947, she was told that a drunken gravedigger had made a mistake, and that Ford had been buried in a plot of unhallowed ground.

Until recently that was also the fate of his literary reputation. Saunders acknowledges that this was partly Ford's own fault. His "messily public" private life, his "freedom with fact", the unevenness of much of his writing were all factors. Even his appearance counted against him.

He was not short of perceptive admirers, however, even in his own day. Ezra Pound called him "the man who did the work for English writing". Much of that work was done in the two interwar decades which are the subject of this volume. Shell-shocked on the Somme, Ford fashioned out of his wartime experiences the four volumes which comprise *Parade's End*, hailed by the American writer William Carlos Williams as "the English prose masterpiece of their time". Saunders subjects the tetralogy to exhaustive scrutiny and pronounces it (with Conrad's *Under Western Eyes*) "one of the best Russian novels in the English language".

From 1923 onwards, the "work" continued in Paris. "*The Transatlantic Review* stands up well as a discriminating cross-section of post-war Modernism," writes Saunders, who has a nice line in resounding understatement. Under Ford's editorship it published, in whole or in part, *Finnegans Wake*, two of Pound's *Cantos* and some of Hemingway's best stories. Ford cast his net wide, and drew in not only writers, but also artists and composers.

As in Saunders's first volume, anyone feeling the need of a break should peruse the index. The entries about Ford himself are especially good: "accused of being his own grandfather"; "challenges Gide to a duel"; "names potato plants after writers"; "asks French minister for ferrets".

A casualty of a German shell 80 years ago, Ford subsequently, as Saunders puts it, became "a casualty of the academic guardianship of literature." This biography releases him from the casualty clearing stations in which he has been detained for so long and restores him to active literary service.

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The recently published book, OpJB, is an account of how Ian Fleming and Christopher Creighton, the book's author, led an expedition that brought Martin Bormann, Hitler's Secretary, to England at the war's end. The book has been the centre of sensational controversy. Bormann, as the sole executor of Hitler's will, played an essential part in the disposal of Nazi assets in Swiss Banks. Bormann's authority to release such assets was the reason the Allies wanted him in England. This is a matter of suprene historical importance. In the interests of truth, a reward is hereby being made of

£20,000

to anyone who can provide evidence that Operation James Bond dic not take place.

Conditions of the reward. Applicants must provide direct, first-hand, factual evidence, not based on rumour, gossip, hearsay or opinion, provable in a court of law, that Operation James Bond, as described in OpJB, did not take place. Applicants must also be prepared to rebut and negate the evidence produced by Creighton, that OpJB did take place. The facts to be relevant must have occurred between January 1 1945 and May 15 1945. This offer is open until December 31 1996 and only the first person providing such conclusive evidence will receive the £20,00 reward. If legal costs are involved, each side will pay its own. Applications to be sent to Operation James Bond, c/o Curtis Brown, Haymarket, London.

هكذا في الأصل

هكذا من الأصل

Douglas Hurd admires the political career of a serene and straightforward Earl who renounced his title and became Prime Minister

Steady hands to drive the coach of State



The Earl of Home, the then Commonwealth Relations Secretary (left), with Ted Heath, Minister for Labour, Downing Street (1960)

In May 1940 Lord Dunglass, MP, underwent a routine Army medical examination in Edinburgh. The resignation of Neville Chamberlain earlier in the month had deprived him of his job as parliamentary private secretary to the Prime Minister and he wanted to rejoin the Lanarkshire Yeomanry for active service. To his annoyance, the board told him he was in poor shape and should go away and rest. Later in the summer tuberculosis of the spine was diagnosed, a tricky operation was performed and for nearly two years Sir Alec (as it seems sensible to call him) was encased in plaster and unable to leave his home.

He used the time to read and think. It was the first of three setbacks, any one of which for a less persistent politician might have been conclusive. The second check came when he lost his seat at Lanark in 1945, the third when his father died in 1951, just after he had regained Lanark, and he perforce entered the House of Lords as the 14th Earl of Home. After any one of these setbacks Sir Alec might reasonably have abandoned politics for his family, for cricket and racing, for the admirable pleasures and duties which belonged to him in the Borders.

But each time he came back into politics and climbed a little higher up the spider's thread. Mr Thorpe's book traces the reason why. Sir Alec, by inheritance and education, found it natural to serve. It was his vocation. Moreover, he had a lively and penetrating interest in party politics. His diffident manner could be deceptive. If he spoke and behaved like an amateur it was because he had many interests outside the game. It did not mean that he was incapable of defending his wicket and notching up a decent score.

Politicians in recent times have been measured by how much they want to change, and how rough they are in imposing their views on others. Sir Alec would not do well by that test. Once only he rebelled against the orthodoxy of the time, when in early 1945 he helped to lead the Conservative revolt against the Yalta settlement of the Polish question.

His steady suspicion of Soviet good faith and intentions was a consistent thread throughout his later life. For the rest, politics for him meant the successful handling of problems as they arose rather than the emphatic assertion of controversial principles. This separated him from the next generation of politicians. For example, Ian Macleod and Sir Alec never saw eye to eye. Sir Alec regarded his two successors, Ted Heath and Margaret Thatcher, with affectionate bemusement as they attempted their cultural revolutions.

ALEC DOUGLAS-HOME
By D. R. Thorpe
Sinclair-Stevenson, £25
ISBN 1 85619 277 6

For Sir Alec the main objective of government was to keep the coach on the road. If that meant going a bit slow from time to time, or taking a detour to avoid an obstacle, so be it. The qualities needed of the coachman included serenity, realism and an ability to understand and help others. Macmillan manufactured a reputation as an unflappable Prime Minister, but his outward serenity concealed acute nervous tension, for example during the Cuban crisis. Sir Alec's serenity was the real thing.

He accepted reluctantly but with clear sight the realities of a changing world. His aim as Commonwealth Secretary and then twice as Foreign Secretary was to manage that change, so that it inflicted the smallest possible shock and damage on Britain. The transformation of southern Africa was one example: the change in the character of the Anglo-American alliance another. From these vantage points of serenity and realism Sir Alec could hold out a hand to those with whose turmoil he sympathised.

Neville Chamberlain was glad to come to the Hirsel in October 1938 to shoot and recuperate. Later Sir Alec corresponded intimately at other times of crisis with Eden and Macmillan. Within his expressions of support were embedded hard nuggets of information. Eden was warned of the mounting anxiety in Cabinet about the Suez operation; Macmillan was advised not to continue into a 1963 or 1964 general election. Because these three Prime Ministers trusted Sir Alec they accepted from him advice as well as sympathy.

There was no pomp or vanity about Sir Alec. He had no need to assert his position. His traditional education enabled him to dispense with jargon and long argument. I knew him over 30 years, first when I was a very small official and last as one of his successors. He treated me exactly the same from first to last — at all times informal, straightforward and helpful.

Mr Thorpe writes a straightforward and much needed account of a straightforward man. At first I thought that he was including too much of the trivia of government such as the text of resignation letters or the details of ministerial travel. But these are, after all, the daily diet of politics. To leave them out is to distort. In particular they have a place in the story of a man for whom the process of carrying on the Queen's Government was all important.

The centrepiece of the book is a full and convincing account of the events of October 1963 which culminated in Sir Alec becoming Prime Minister. Points which had been obscure, at least to me, became clear — for example the effect of American antagonism to Quintin Hailsham. Thorpe concludes that Sir Alec won "by keeping his options open and by not wanting the prize too much".

As it is well known, Harold Macmillan wrote to the Queen from hospital summarising his findings about the succession. Thorpe quotes from a striking earlier draft, not sent to the Palace, and not released by the Public Records Office until last year. Here in the "Tuesday memorandum" the retiring Prime Minister ruminates on the fact that "it is thinking about themselves that is really the curse of the younger generation — they appear to have no other subject which interests them at all". Sir Alec by contrast, wrote Macmillan, represented the old governing class. He was much liked by men such as Kennedy, Rusk and Gromyko because the class to which he belonged "think about the question under discussion and not about themselves".

The Rt Hon Douglas Hurd, CH, CBE, MP, was Foreign Secretary 1989-95.



Journey from Buchenwald: boys liberated by Czech partisans at Theresienstadt, May 1945

Victorious lives

Julia Neuberger is moved by the accounts of Holocaust survivors who found refuge in Britain

THE BOYS
Triumph Over Adversity
By Martin Gilbert
Weidenfeld & Nicolson, £20
ISBN 0 297 81638 1

This volume of memories, a group biography of 732 people, makes almost unbearably painful reading, while being impossible to put down. Martin Gilbert has acted as a conduit for the memories of people, now in their mid-sixties, who came to Britain in 1945 and shortly after, as young concentration camp survivors. They had, in many cases, seen their parents killed, been unable to say goodbye, and had witnessed the most inhuman acts on the part of their persecutors.

One tells of a baby tossed up in the air amidst drunken laughter and caught in a huge pan again and again until he stopped crying. Another tells of the brutal murder, by local village Nazis, of the husband of a wonderful German woman who had sheltered him and another Jew. And still they survived, to become decent, "normal", adults.

Gilbert states his "personal reason for writing this book. It is 22 years since I first met Rabbi Hugo Gryn, a survivor of Auschwitz and one of those whose story is told in this book. Not only did he encourage me to devote time to recording the fate of the Jews during the Second World War, he also introduced me to the members of the '45 Aid Society, of which he was, and is, a part." Sadly, Hugo Gryn did not live to see this volume published. But his sense of urgency that these experiences should be recorded, and that gratitude should be expressed to those who helped, is amply fulfilled by Martin Gilbert's comprehensive work.

In the summer of 1945, Britain declared itself ready to take up to a thousand young survivors of the Holocaust. Only 732 could be found. They went to Northern Ireland, Scotland, Windermere and Southampton. They had health checks; most were suffering from something — dormant TB was commonplace, frostbite with oozing toe stumps was seen, scarring and deformities as the result of beatings and forced labour the norm.

They were greeted with immense kindness and given sympathetic support before they gradually moved on to hostels. All spent months and years looking for relatives. Only a few found them.

After they separated, the need for social contact was paramount. So the Primrose Club was born, in Belsize Park, London, and the survivors, and others who had reached England in other ways, met regularly. When Zigi Shipper, originally from Lodz by way of hellish experiences, came into the Club on its first evening, he recalled how "I felt I was at home again. I found my family and I found the Boys — and after 50 years we are still together".

For this is ultimately a book about optimism. They survived. They made good. They were helped by the inspirational Leonard Montefiore, by Joan Stiebel, by prewar refugees from Nazi Germany, and by many others. They helped each other with their mutually supportive '45 Aid Society. But it is in recording their memories for Martin Gilbert, thanks to Ben Helfgott and Hugo Gryn, that their stories reach immortality, in memory of those they left behind, who perished. Through the pain of telling, 50 years on, comes an indomitable spirit.

Leonard Montefiore argued that: "If we lavish care on a few survivors, we are, at the same time, paying tribute to the dead." Indeed they were, and the Boys have paid their tribute by rebuilding shattered lives. The photographs of their reunions show a bond so strong it shines out of static serried rows. This is a book about coming out of hell, about great evil, about the triumph of the human spirit, and about great goodness on the part of those who helped. One is left with hope, and admiration.

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Robert Nye

AFTER RAIN
By William Trevor
Viking, £16
ISBN 0 670 87007 2

William Trevor is a poet of prose fictions. Each of his stories is like a poem, an experience captured in words and drawn out to just the length it requires to reveal its meaning. His is quite a scarce skill — knowing exactly where to start, and when to stop. His stories have more *shape* than those of any other living practitioner of a difficult art.

The twelve new examples collected in *After Rain* show Trevor at the top of his form. Whether he is writing about a boy who believes he has been kissed by the ghost of a female saint, or the two rival wives of a blind piano tuner differently interpreting the colours of the world to him, or a pair of petty thieves plying their trade in the suburbs of Dublin, the manner of these stories is specific and shocking and matter-of-fact. The shock comes in the irony of the matter-of-factness. Trevor tells us the most disturbing things in the most unemphatic way and we believe him for as long as each narrative lasts.



Trevor: prose poet

The occasional bizarre detail only adds verisimilitude. Trevor knows that a psychopathic killer living at home with his mother will eat Mr Kipling cakes and that a thug might quote Milton unwittingly when trying to score with a girl. At one point, in passing, he has mention of a man who claims to like the taste of paper. The man does not seem important to the story, and he is gone almost as soon as mentioned, but we remember him. Later, it might occur to us that this paper eater *was* important because the person who told us about him has turned out to be someone who reports on odd things noted in others as a way of deflecting attention from his own much more sinister oddities.

The method employed is as recommended in Robert Graves's poem *The Devil's Advice to Story-Tellers*: "Nice contradiction between fact and fact/ Will make the whole read human and exact." It is that kind of realism which makes this world so lively.

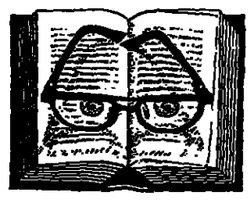
That world is often Irish, and Trevor has claims to be considered the most honest observer of contemporary Ireland at work in fiction today. Not for him the kind of overwriting which some would think inevitable in this context. It is just that he sets down about his native land a number of things which seem true to life, as well as strange to a foreigner.

Widows, in which a woman pays money to a crooked painter and decorator to prevent the memory of her dead husband being tarnished by the tradesman's claim that a bill was not met, is a key story here. Seldom can the complexities of small-town Irish life have been so ruthlessly unravelled. *Lost Ground* tells much about the troubles of the North by recounting different sectarian reactions to a Protestant boy's vision of a saint.

Generally, the more Trevor is involved in his subjects, the better he writes. He writes of ordinary people pitched momentarily into extraordinary situations, and learning something about themselves and their society as a result. He can be amusing about Ireland, too. In *The Potato Dealer* two men draw up their vehicles alongside each other on the public highway to do business, ignoring the hooting of horns: "They were of the neighbourhood, local people, the road was more theirs than strangers'."

Trevor has a fine ear for dialogue and something of a poet's feel for language. Which brings me back to my basic point. This writer is in his stories like a poet taking a deep breath and expanding upon the kind of people and events crystallised (say) in a few stanzas by Philip Larkin. More than one of these stories made me think of Larkin's poem *The Whitsun Weddings*, which also ends on just that note of ambiguous affirmation which Trevor favours as a way of ending things.

Unsound remainders



BIBLIOMANE

FOR SOME years, second-hand and antiquarian bookshops have been in retreat. The trade has increasingly been conducted at fairs, by post, and now via electronic cataloguing and book-searches. Many small shops have closed or become outlets for the sorry booming trade in remainders.

Fairs are certainly flourishing. Coming up in London are the Chelsea fair, November 8-9, and an international fair of artists' books, at the Barbican, November 15-17.

Yet the pendulum may be swinging back. The Antiquarian Book Arcade at 37 Great Russell Street is a year old. Run by Bohemian Bookworm, it acts as a display case for 50 or so dealers. Several dealers also show fine books in the basement of Jack Duncan Cartoons at 44 Museum Street.

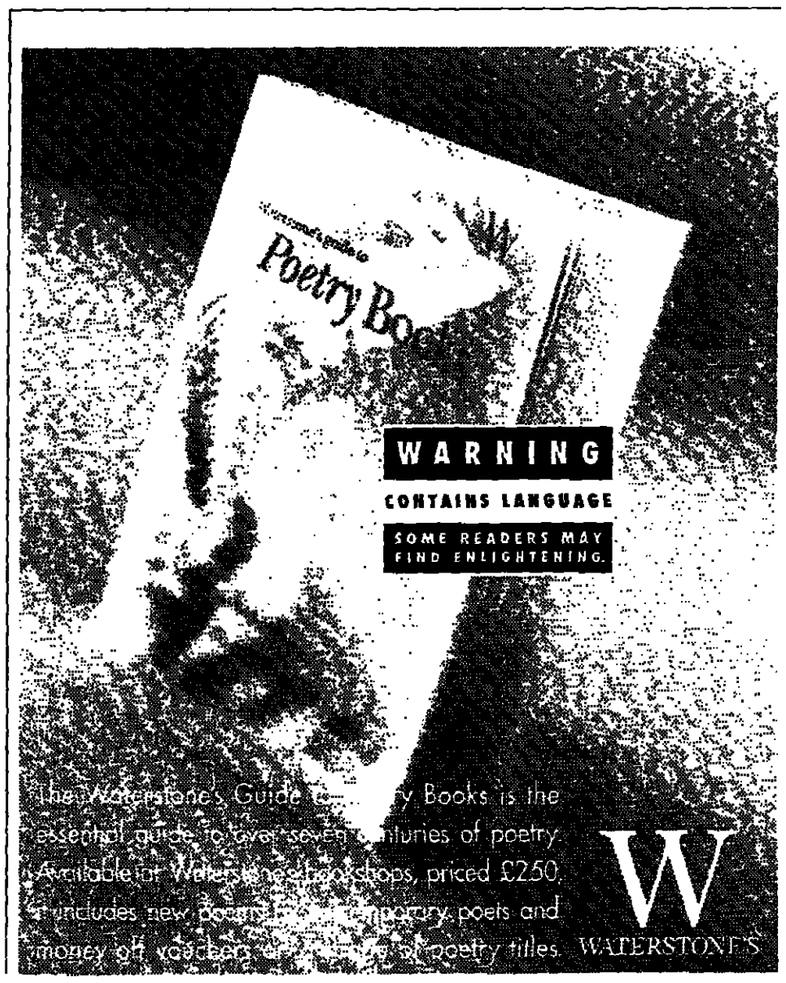
A further sign of confidence in the traditional bookshop is the move of two prominent booksellers into pricey Mayfair premises. Simon Finch has bought a whole building in Maddox Street. For the first time this will give him a shop-window, and he says he hopes people will be more likely to call in: but not *too* many people.

Bernard J. Shapero has moved from Holland Park to 32 St George Street. Specialising in "literary" leather-bindings, travel and plate books, Shapero will presumably need to move into the same league as the long-established Maggs and Sotheran's. His most recent catalogue offered John Gould's own copy of his "Toucans" with nine plates by Edward Lear (large folio, 1834, £55,000).

ON NOVEMBER 26, Sotheby's will be selling an atlas compiled by the cartographer who coined the word, Gerardus Mercator (1512-94), and the British Rail Pension Fund is looking for more than £1 million. The atlas includes the only two known manuscript maps by Mercator and the only surviving copy of his 1554 wall-map of Europe, as well as two sections of the 1569 world map which was the first to use Mercator's projection. Did Sotheby's really need to give the story "spin" by claiming that "without Mercator's invention there would be no space travel"?

SURPRISING that Sheridan's set of Fielding has sat out the summer in Charing Cross Road: an interesting association. But while Sheridan was sound on the Impeachment of Warren Hastings, he thought the French Revolution a good idea. Obviously not entirely sound.

JIM MCCUE



Bargains of the week — from seven days for £99 on the Costa Dorada to taking a cruise down the Nile

HOTELS

A 50 PER cent reduction in the published room rate over Christmas is on offer from the May Fair Inter-Continental Hotel in central London. The rate from December 16 to January 12 is £135 a room a night including breakfast and VAT. Details: 0171-629 7777.

■ THE Palace Hotel in Buxton, Derbyshire, has an autumn break package of £78 a person for two nights based on double occupancy, including dinner, bed and breakfast. The offer is available until November 30. Details: 01298 22001.

■ THE White Hart Hotel, a 16th-century coach inn at Braintree in Essex, has a special pre-Christmas rate from November 28 until December 24 of £45 double and £36 single instead of the usual rates of £71 and £59.50 respectively. The only requirement is that you eat in the hotel restaurant. Details: 01376 321401.

■ THE Hyatt La Manga Club resort in Spain has a special room rate available until the end of the year, excluding Christmas and the new year, of 20,500 pesetas (about £100) a night for double occupancy instead of the usual rate of 31,500 pesetas. The offer is based on a minimum of two nights. Details: 0345 581666.

■ A HALLOWEEN break at Westover Hall in the New Forest costs £60 a person a night, including dinner when booked through Crystal Britain. The local ghost is reputed to be the nanny of the original owner, the German industrialist Alex Siemens. Details: 0181-390 8513.

■ THE three-day Christmas Special at Dukes Hotel in St James's Place, central London, includes Boxing Day transport to Kempton Park for the racing, as well as lunch and a gala dinner. Price is £550 a person for three nights. Details: 0171-491 4840.

■ GUESTS and day visitors to the 18 Novotel hotels in the UK will be find apples in their rooms on October 21 to celebrate National Apple Day organised by Common Ground, the environmental charity. Details: 0181-2377474.

■ WINTER break rates at Jersey's Atlantic Hotel, a member of the Small Luxury Hotels of the World Consortium, fall from £75 a person a night based on double occupancy to £65 a night from October 28 until December 19. Details: 01534 44101.

■ THE Grosvenor House hotel in London has pre-Christmas offers from December 3-15 at £170 a night based on double occupancy but not including breakfast. A brochure detailing other Christmas deals, including lunch discounts in the hotel restaurants is also available. Details: 0171-499 6363.

■ THE JOCKEY Peter Scudamore will be the guest speaker at the Hilton National in Newbury on November 29 for a Hennessy Gold Cup dinner. This is part of a two-night racing weekend package costing £226 a person. Details: 0345 581595.



Andalusia highlight: the town of Ronda that provided the setting for Ernest Hemingway's *For Whom the Bell Tolls*

FERRIES

SEA FRANCE is selling a package of three day-returns on its Dover-Calais route valid for travel in October, November and December. The price is £23 for all three trips for a car plus four people. Two trips cost £16; otherwise day-trips cost £9 a time — with free sparkling wine on each crossing. Details: 0990 711711.

■ BRITTANY FERRIES offers a mini-cruise to Santander in northern Spain from Portsmouth or Plymouth for £49 a person, to include a cabin berth and afternoon in Santander. Details: 0990 360360.

■ IRISH FERRIES has introduced a winter fare from £105 for a car and up to five adults on its Pembroke-Rosslare route. The 48-hour return is valid until December 17. The same ticket on Holyhead-Dublin costs from £119. Details: 0345 171717.

■ P&O EUROPEAN Ferries has motoring holidays in Ireland available from £59 a person to include two nights B&B, based on four sharing a car. The company operates between Cairnryan and Larne in Northern Ireland. Details: 0990 980888.

■ STENA Line Holidays is selling three nights for the price of two at Disneyland Paris for the Christmas season. Based on two adults and two children sharing a room at Hotel Cheyenne, prices are £146 each for adults and £39 a child to include crossing and entry. Details: 0990 747474.

FLIGHTS

AMERICAN EXPRESS Gold and Platinum cardholders qualify for thousands of pounds worth of savings through the offer of flight upgrades and/or free companion tickets. The deals are valid during selected periods between now and 1997 with Qantas, American, Continental, Cathay Pacific and Emirates. Details: 01273 697272.

■ AIR UK has £59 excursion fares to Amsterdam, Paris and Rotterdam, provided you book today. Details: 0345 666777.

■ BUSINESS-CLASS passengers bound for Johannesburg can fly for less than half price with Sabena via Brussels. Travelbug has negotiated a return fare of £899, compared with the usual £2,215. Departures are from various UK airports. Details: 0161-740 8998.

■ MAJOR TRAVEL has cut-price scheduled flights to New York. Return fares from Gatwick or Heathrow start at £230 in October, falling to £205 for travel in November. Details: 0171-485 7017.

■ ASIAN Affair Holidays will fly two people to Singapore and Penang and provide seven nights' accommodation for £539 each. Details: 0171-439 2601.

■ ECONOMY passengers flying Philippine Airlines to Manila can upgrade to business class comfort and service for an extra £350. Details: 0171-499 9446.

HOLIDAYS

ANDALUSIA highlights feature in an eight-day coach tour available from Archer Tours. Flights are from Gatwick, Manchester, Cardiff and Glasgow on November 10. Prices from £335 a person. Details: 0181-466 6745.

■ POSTA Vecchia, John Paul Getty's former home north of Rome, now a Relais & Chateaux hotel, is included in four-day winter breaks on offer from CV Travel. Prices for two nights half-board at the hotel, a further night in a Rome hotel and return scheduled flights start at £680 a person. Details: 0171-589 0132.

■ A WEEK's self-catering on the Greek island of Thassos or on Spain's Costa Dorada for £99, both with flights from Gatwick next Tuesday, are among late offers from Cosmos. Details: 0161-480 5799.

■ GET-FIT-to-ski cycling breaks, exercising the muscles used on the slopes, are available, from £125 a person, from Cotswold Cycling Company on three weekends between now and Christmas. Accommodation is at Cheltenham's Hallery House hotel. Details: 01242 250642.

■ PRE-CHRISTMAS skiing for half the high-season price is available from Meriski. The week from December 13, in luxury chalets, costs from £399 a person. Four-course dinners with receptions beforehand and a minibus shuttle to the slopes are included. Details: 01451 844788.

■ TURKEY and tinsel breaks in Jersey in November are on offer from Modern Hotels for those who want to celebrate Christmas early. The price for four nights' half-board accommodation, including entertainment and return Condor crossing from Weymouth, is £109 a person. Details: 01534 874666.

■ GOLFERS can enjoy up to five rounds and two nights' bed and breakfast buffet at Hotel du Parc, northern France, with French Golf Holidays for £127 a person midweek (£10 more at weekends), including return SeaCat travel. Details: 01277 374374.

■ EXPLORE Jordan for a week with Bales Tours for £575, with a flight from Heathrow on November 18, or for £499 leaving on December 2. The price includes bed and breakfast accommodation and sightseeing, including Petra and the Dead Sea. Details: 01306 876881.

■ NILE cruises aboard a traditional woodentop boat with Oriental-style, open-deck area, "avoiding the typical floating gin palaces", are available from Travelbag Adventures as part of a nine-day Egypt tour with a departure on November 20. Prices including flights from £595 a person. Details: 01420 541007.

■ SIMPLY TROPIX is offering a ten-night holiday combining two of Asia's newest deluxe hotels, the Andaman on Langkawi, Malaysia, and the Conrad International, Singapore, for £985 a person from November 7 to December 10 with Malaysia Airlines flights. Details: 0181-875 1777.

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This is the time for great bargains

Once the half-term surge is over, the travel industry will head into the winter doldrums.

In resorts around the Mediterranean, the sun-shades are being stored away, beach bars are being dismantled, hotels closed for refurbishment and aircraft flown off to operate in parts of the world where summer is just around the corner.

But as the travel industry counts its profits, now is the time for canny folk with time to spare to take advantage of low prices and to grab a short break before the run up to Christmas.

Some may want to catch the sun before winter turns the healthiest skin pale, others may prefer to stay nearer home to enjoy the lingering autumn colours.

Here are a few suggestions from my own favourites:

☐ Dubai: The industry's best-loved "secret" destination. Thomson is offering three nights in the five-star Jumeira Beach for £675 from November.

☐ Cyprus: An excellent time of year to visit the island, which can be brash and crowded at the height of the season. A week's holiday with flights and bed and breakfast accommodation at the Cypria Maris hotel is available through Sunvil for £450.

☐ Washington: As the "fall" moves south, Virginia becomes spectacular. Virgin Holidays is offering return flights, with car hire included, for £329 a person. Accommodation in the United States is high quality but cheap.



The Travel Business

HARVEY ELLIOTT

☐ Nice: At this time of the year, Finding hotel accommodation near enough to walk to the seafront, is easy. Getting there now costs £149, with a British Airways World Offer, compared with the usual £220 return fare. With EasyJet, it costs £98 return, but flights are from Luton.

☐ St Malo: Overnight on Brittany Ferries from Portsmouth then drive to Bayeux and spend two nights at the Château de Sully, which now has a Michelin star. Return on the day service from nearby Caen. Price for two people and car, inclusive of cabin on the outward ferry, and dinner bed and breakfast at the château, is £210.50.

☐ St Ives: Anyone over 50 with an interest in music can have a four-night break with Saga at the Carbis Bay Hotel from November 4 for £169, not including travel. It includes lectures on the lives of the great composers plus music appreciation.

☐ Scotland: The Deeside Hotel at Ballater, near Balmoral, features three nights' accommodation with dinner, bed and breakfast for £95. *Autumn Gold*, the Scottish Tourist Board brochure, has a wide range of travel offers, including two for one return flights and rail services.

☐ *The Cotswolds: Four people* can share the Old Dairy Cottage at Broadway for three days for a total of £165 with Country Holidays.

Me? I'm spending three nights at a country cottage near Bridport in Dorset. And despite my moans about Sorrento last week, I would still go back to Italy.

Family's timeshare victory

BY TONY DAWE

A FAMILY from Manchester has won back the money paid for a timeshare that failed to live up to its promises in an out-of-court settlement that could bring hope to many.

Stuart and Anne McBurnie agreed to buy a timeshare apartment in the Algarve for an off-peak week every year on the understanding that they could take their two small children to other properties in school holidays for a small extra charge. When they received the contract, however, they were horrified to read that holidays could not be taken in peak periods.

The McBurnies should have been protected by the Timeshare Act, which provides for a 14-day cooling-off period to allow purchasers to change their minds but the company offering the deal failed to send the details until three weeks after the initial agreement was made.

"We made dozens of phone calls but our complaints were fobbed off," says Stuart McBurnie. In desperation he turned to a local company that specialises in challenging dubious contracts and last week it succeeded in securing an agreement involving the refund of the £4,700 spent on the timeshare plus the cost of disputing the deal.

"It is a great relief to have won the case but it should be a warning to other timeshare clients," he says. "I made all the classic mistakes. I went along to the Holiday Exchange International presentation only because a free holiday was on offer but I got hooked on the idea.

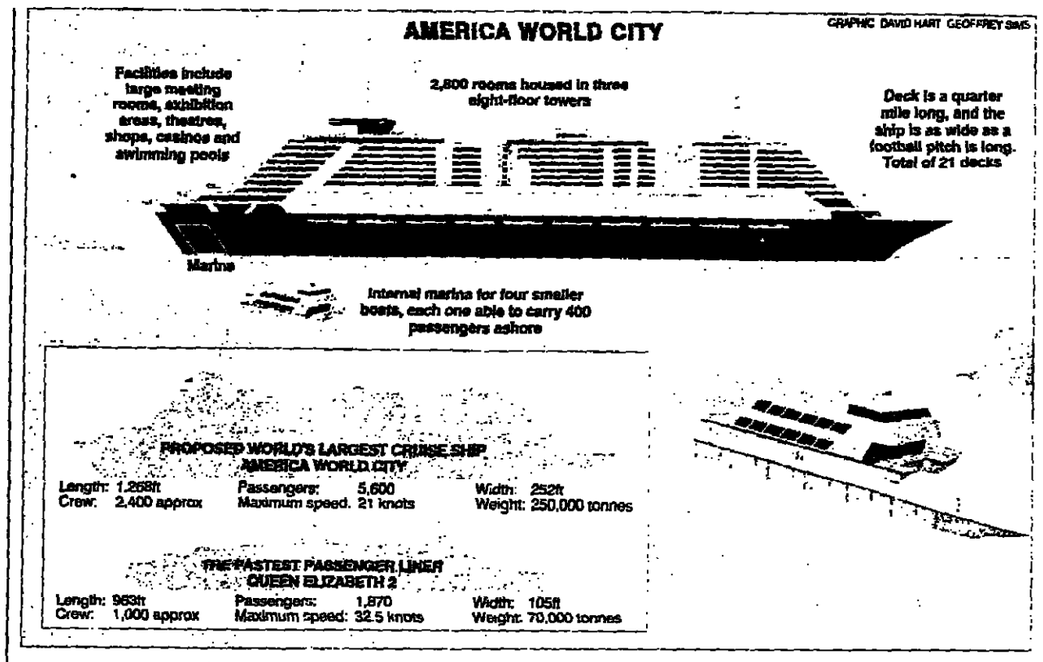
"A representative tried to sell me an apartment for a peak period that I could not afford but I was persuaded to buy a cheaper one on the understanding that we would have easy access to other properties whenever we liked. The offer was made verbally, which proved useless when the contract finally arrived."

The McBurnies had entered into a finance agreement to pay for the timeshare and it was by pursuing the finance house, claiming misrepresentation of the terms of the contract and citing the provisions of the Consumer Credit Act, that they won the case.

Ian Wallwork, marketing director of Contract Consulting, which took up the case, says: "Thousands of families were attracted to timeshares because of the promise of cheap holidays in resorts around the world. Unfortunately, the 'go where you want, when you want' sales patter often turns out to be untrue.

"But as Mr and Mrs McBurnie's case clearly demonstrates, if the contract is misrepresented there is a very good chance that families can get their money back."

The Timeshare Council, the trade association, says that Holiday Exchange offered to upgrade the McBurnies to a busier time of year without charge after receiving their complaint. A spokeswoman adds that the council receives about 30 complaints a week but most of them concern agreements signed by British holidaymakers in the Canaries and Balearics where a legal cooling-off period does not yet exist.



World's largest floating city to navigate buoyant cruise market

BY DAVID CHURCHILL

THE world's biggest cruise ship — more than twice the size of the current largest liner and more than three times the size of the *QE2* — is due to be launched before the end of the decade by the US-based Westin Hotels Company.

The Westin ship, at 250,000 tonnes and carrying 8,000 passengers and crew, will take over the mantle of the world's largest liner from the 101,000-tonne *Carnival Destiny* which is being launched next week in Venice by Carnival Cruise Lines. Carnival is the biggest cruise company in the world and also owns a 29 per cent stake in UK tour operator, Airtours.

Carnival's ship will carry more than 3,350 passengers and replaces P&O's 77,000-tonne *Sun Princess* as the world's biggest cruise ship. Cunard's *QE2* is just over 70,000 tonnes. The *Carnival Destiny* will also be bigger than the two 85,000-tonne liners Disney is due to launch in 1998 for cruises around the Caribbean from Florida.

But it is Westin's giant ship, named *America World City*, that has stunned the cruise world. "The ship will be a floating city on the sea," says Juergen Bartels, chief executive officer of Westin. "We are very excited to enter the cruise ship business in such a historic manner."

Not everyone, however, believes that such a massive ship can pay off. "Our research has shown that the economies of scale and logistics of operating a large cruise ship suggest that about 110,000 tonnes is the maximum size to operate efficiently," says Michael Muller, managing director of Carnival Cruise Lines.

The *America World City*, which will cost £800 million, will house its capacity of 5,600 passengers in 2,800 cabins. These will be located in three eight-floor towers built on a deck a quarter of a mile long and as wide as the length of a football field. There will be 21 decks in total and the ship will also have a crew of 2,400.

A special feature of the vessel will be an internal marina in the hull. The marina will house four small boats, each able to carry 400 passengers ashore at destinations where the mother ship is too big to dock. Other facilities on the ship will include large meetings and exhibition space, theatres, shops, casinos and swimming pools.

The ship, which is due to go into service in 1999, will be the first major passenger vessel to be built in the United States for almost 50 years, and parts of it will be built in several American locations before final assembly. It will cruise the east coast of America and the Gulf of Mexico. Three more similar size ships are planned.

The trend towards large ship construction reflects both the buoyancy of the cruise industry — passenger numbers are expected to be about 20 per cent ahead this year — and the demand for more on board facilities.

"We have to market ourselves more as floating resort hotels now," Mr Muller says.

Carnival Cruise Lines has added on-board features such as a 200ft water chute for children, as well as the traditional pool, to cater for families.

The demand for cruise holidays has been fuelled by young families who are choosing them for their holidays and by the move by both Thomson Holidays and Airtours to launch low-price cruise holidays using their own ships.

Caribbean island promotes volcano

BY TONY DAWE

TOURISM chiefs on the Caribbean island of Montserrat have decided to promote the active volcano, which has been threatening to engulf much of the British colony, as a tourist attraction rather than a menace.

They claim that the 3,000ft high Chances Peak is the only active British volcano and is a spectacular sight, especially on clear evenings.

"Where else on earth can you see such a natural phenomenon?" asks Gloria Boekbinder Mulder, of the newly formed Montserrat Initiative Group. "Visitors are fascinated when they see the volcano, and helicopter trips around its dome are proving very popular for those who wish for a closer view."

This enthusiasm echoes the mood of tourist officials in Iceland who report a surge of interest in the country because of the volcanic eruptions beneath Vatnajokull glacier but it contrasts dramatically with the reaction on Montserrat when the volcano first erupted in July last year after lying dormant for 400 years.

More than half the island's 11,800 population was evacuated to northern districts from Plymouth, the capital, and southern areas close to the erupting volcano. Hundreds of residents fled the island altogether and the Royal Navy destroyer *Southampton* stood by, ready for a mass evacuation if the volcano erupted fully.

Some southern residents have begun to return to their homes but Mrs Mulder admits that disruption to daily life continues, although the main offices and stores are functioning.

The tourism group claims that many of the island's attractions, including its famous black sand beach and much of the wildlife, have not been affected by the clouds of ash that have fallen from the volcano. The Sea Wolf diving school is continuing to operate, arranging shallow and deep dives to see the coral and tropical fish.

"The slogan of the Montserrat Tourist Board is 'The Caribbean as it used to be' and that is still true," says Mrs Mulder. "There is no building higher than three storeys, no crime problem, not a single traffic light and we do not even have a McDonald's."

Most hotels, villas and apartments are open and tour operators are continuing to offer holidays to the island. Jane Roche, the marketing manager of Simply Caribbean, says: "We are still selling villa holidays on the island and accommodation at the well-known Vue Pointe bungalow hotel but we are constantly monitoring the situation."

Kingdom loses its secrets

BY TONY DAWE

A SECRET kingdom in a remote corner of England will be revealed next week when a long-term campaign is started to make north Northumberland as popular with tourists as the Lake District and the Yorkshire Dales.

Leaders of the local holiday industry, eager to cash in on the tourism boom in the area, which has fine beaches, the beautiful Cheviot Hills and a dozen handsome castles, have joined forces to create a partnership as part of one of the biggest tourism initiatives ever undertaken in the North of England.

The organisation — which has been awarded grants by the Department of Trade & Industry and the Rural Development Commission — has the blessing of the Northumbrian Tourist Board, which used to promote the area, together with County Durham, Tyneside and Wearside.

Peter Forrester, the project director of Marketing Partnership 2000, says: "We have decided that it is time to give the region its own identity. We will be promoting it as 'The Secret Kingdom' because the region used to be a kingdom in neolithic times and during the Dark Ages.

"It also played an important part in history with the development of Holy Island during the golden ages of light and learning and in the battles between the English and the Scots.

"We also want to encourage visitors to discover the interesting nooks and crannies that they might not normally find, such as the many spiritual prehistoric sites, and we have included quizzes in our new 40-page guide to make exploring the region more fun."

Mr Forrester, who also runs a country café and store, has been joined in the partnership by 150 organisations with tourism interests, including hotels, guest houses, museums and caravan and camp sites.

Like all modern campaigns, The Secret Kingdom will have its own logo based on "a visual interpretation" of the castle on Holy Island. It will be unveiled on Tuesday at the launch, which is being held at Chillingham Castle, the home of the distinctive white cattle of the same name.

Last year, Northumbria as a whole attracted more than three million visitors, about half the number who went to the Lake District and the Yorkshire Dales.



SPECTRUM

White cattle at Chillingham Castle, where the Secret Kingdom campaign will be launched

Ukraine plans to tempt tourists

BY HARVEY ELLIOTT

UKRAINE — Europe's biggest country — is shaking off its post-independence torpor and making a determined effort to catch up with other former Soviet states in the race for economic prosperity.

More than 50 British businesses are now active in the country, which is bigger than France and has a population similar to the UK's.

Most visitors are West European businessmen but Ukrainian Government officials are convinced that the country could soon become a major tourist attraction.

The Government is spending £53 million on renovating and restoring some of the magnificent buildings, churches and monuments in the capital Kiev which were allowed to fall into disrepair and decay under communist rule and is seeking international investment to help to build new hotels for a meeting of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development in May 1998.

The hotels will, it is hoped, also provide sufficient rooms to accommodate the large numbers of potential tourists keen to visit such sites as the Great Gate of Kiev, St Sofia's cathedral and the mummified monks of Lavra.

Ukraine gained independence from the Soviet Union in 1991 but is behind other former Soviet Union countries in reorganising its economy. But now Ukraine ministers have recognised the importance of tourism and are determined to make Kiev as attractive as possible to Western visitors.

Opponents claim that the expenditure on restoring old buildings would be enough to raise 600,000 pensioners up to the official poverty level.

The average salary of a teacher in Ukraine is £37.50 a month. Yet a room in the state-owned Dnipr Hotel costs a minimum of £72 a night.

But there is a friendly acceptance of the growing number of Western businessmen who use the increasing number of high-class restaurants and shops which are as expensive as those in London.

The state-owned Ukraine International Airlines is determined to distance itself from airlines of the former Soviet empire which have a worrying reputation for poor safety standards in the West.

Both Ukraine International and British Airways, which recently began flying to Kiev from Gatwick, expect to make handsome profits on the route with return fares which range from £1,182 for a round trip business class to £335 for an Apex return.

IN THE TIMES ON SATURDAY

Travel the world again in Weekend

- Jeremy Wayne in Gerona
- Canada special: Vancouver, Banff and Montreal
- Skiing: Switzerland
- Richard Binns on the plight of French hoteliers and chefs
- Britain: Hastings and Battle
- Cruising the Baltic

France's big phone switch

BY STEVE KEENAN

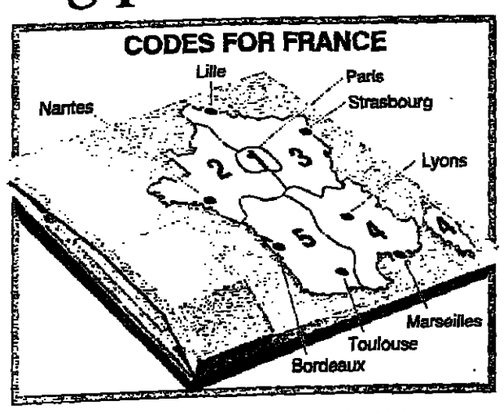
VISITORS to France will find every telephone number in the country, outside Paris, has changed this weekend.

More than 26 million numbers will have an extra digit added to the existing eight in the big switch, which will happen at 10 pm GMT tomorrow. But unlike a similar exercise in the UK, where "parallel running" enabled callers using the old number to get through for a limited period, this will not happen.

The new numbering plan will provide a "vast reserve" of numbers for several decades to come.

Most callers from the UK who forget to add an extra digit will hear a recorded message referring them to a BT or Mercury operator.

France Telecom has sent 30,000 letters to businesses exporting to France, to French residents in the UK and to members of the French Chamber of Commerce. But tourists calling for information are bound to face a period of confusion when they find that the number 0 has been added to all numbers on domestic calls.



Callers from the UK will find no change to the six million Paris numbers that already have the digit 1 in front of the normal eight digits. International dialling codes for Paris remain 00 33 (1), followed by the eight digits.

The remainder of France has been split into four regions, each with its own code.

In general, the figure 2 will precede calls to the Brittany, Normandy and Loire Valley areas; 3 to the northeast regions of Pas de Calais, Picardy, Alsace Lorraine, Champagne and Burgundy; 4 to Auvergne, Languedoc, Rhone-Alpes, Provence, Côte d'Azur and 5 to the southwest regions of Midi-Pyrénées, Aquitaine, Limousin and Charentes.

New Year trip of a lifetime

HUNDREDS of passengers are already booked to spend New Year's Eve 1999 celebrating in style in exotic destinations with Cunard Millennium cruises.

The most popular ship, says the company, is the *QE2*, which has already taken bookings from more than 100 passengers who plan to see in the year 2000 relaxing in luxury off the coast of Barbados.

And four other ships in the Cunard fleet which will be at sea as the next millennium begins are rapidly filling up. They will be making voyages to Acapulco, the Holy Land, Virgin Gorda in the British Virgin Islands, and the Philippines.

The company is now accepting bookings with a £750 deposit for the cruises, described in a brochure called "*It Only Happens Once Every Thousand Years*".

Awards hit the right note

EMPLOYEES of Britain's buoyant travel industry recreated the last night of the Proms at the Royal Albert Hall this week before the presentation of 22 TTG-American Express travel awards, *writes Harvey Elliott.*

More than 400 travel agents were invited to the ceremony by Kuoni as a "reward" for selling their holidays.

The winners were picked by readers of *Travel Trade Gazette*, the industry newspaper. British Airways, British Midland and Virgin each won a category in the business section with Britannia named as the top charter airline.

Other winners included Kuoni, Butlin's, Cresta, First Choice, Inghams, Unijet, P&O Cruises and Stena Line. Thomson was named both the top major tour operator and the best short-haul operator. The travel writer of the year is the freelance Stanley Stewart.



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We are consumed with a passion for the exotic, for experimentation and novelty. If it's new we want it, and we want it now.

You mean you don't have ostrich steaks? What kind of a place are you running? Where is the polenta, the saffron potatoes, the balsamic vinegar and the discreet dribble of truffle oil on the girolles? *Bring out the lemon grass and* lime leaf: bring on the seared tuna sashimi: astonish us with your basil-scented beurre blanc, your black bean salsa, your minted couscous and a taste of Pagnol tapenade.

Supermarkets are experts at detecting the slightest *frisson* on the gastronomic seismograph and search the world for tempting new tastes. They have skilfully laid their lines of supply on a global scale so that *almost everything can now be* had all year round.

These days, food has little to do with hunger, more to do with lifestyle. It was defined for me a few years ago in the Napa valley when I was on a tour around the latest fashionable boutique winery. "My husband," said our guide, "is into gerr-MAY. He's seriously organic." She conjured up visions of a *connoisseur* spending quality time at the stove.

I suspect, now that food and wine have been turned into a hobby, we're all into gourmet. Chefs on television, dazzle us with their skill. There are food game shows, food quizzes, food *sitcoms* and wine documentaries. Everybody has a cellar these days, even if it is only the cupboard under the stairs. Our larders overflow with gourmet products. Food and wine sections dominate the weekend supplements and elbow pursuits such as DIY off the bookshelves. Gourmet has never had a higher or more profitable profile.

Guides abound to every aspect of gourmet, for we are *desperately keen on making* the correct choices. Is it organic? Is it ethically acceptable? Were the peasants who grew the coffee paid enough?

Knowing exactly what you are eating and drinking has never been more essential. The BSE catastrophe has alerted us all to the high price we have to pay for cheap food produced not for its quality but for its quantity. We are, rightly, worried about the methods used by the food and farming industry to fill our trolleys.

Decades of chemically dependent intensive farming, the use of drugs and antibiotics in the animal sheds, the presence of pesticide residues in vegetables, the potential dangers of new technology such as irradiation and genetic engineering, the widespread use of cosmetic additives to tart up junk food, have created a new kind of shopper — one who scrutinises labels and walks warily down the aisles.

It is the small producer who most actively responds to this request for more natural food, produced using farming methods that respect the countryside and animals. The new attitude to food production is forging links between consumers and farmers which have not existed before. Organic vegetable box schemes are no longer considered to be quirky.

Perhaps we need a new word for the kind of food and drink that aspires to the highest standards. The umbrella label is currently "speciality" which implies luxury items for a niche market. It is an attitude that does the food and drinks industry a disservice.

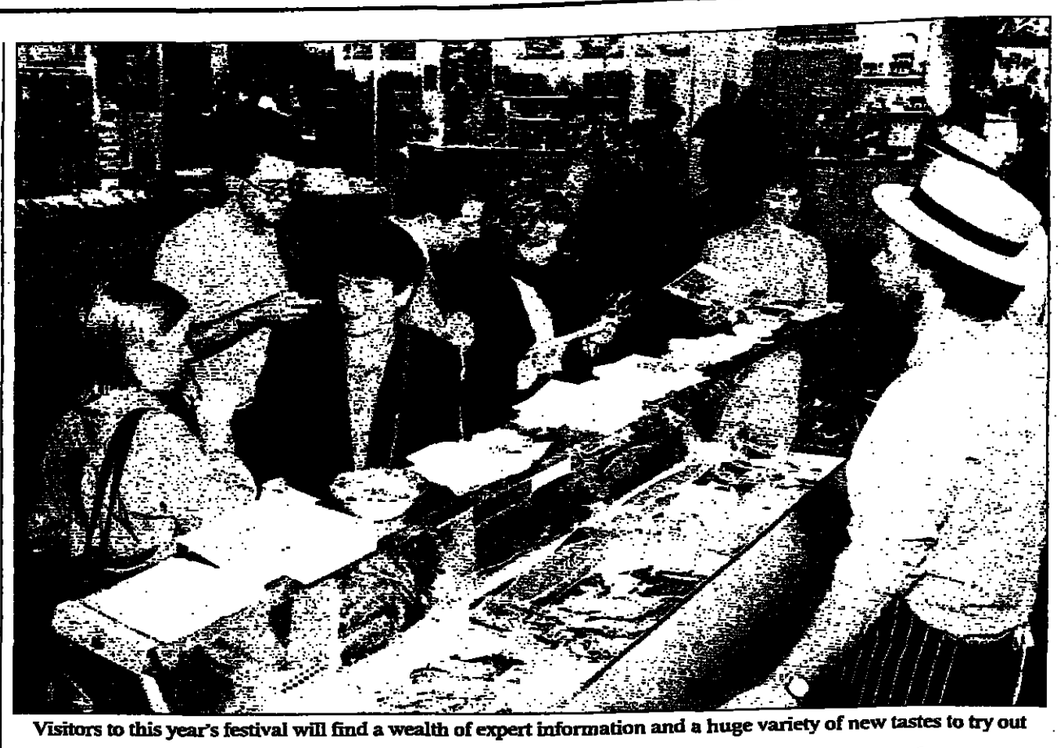
Are we really happy to accept a situation in which there are two kinds of food — stuff produced cheaply which raises no expectations, and speciality products made in small quantities for a small market?

Polarising food in this manner has produced a two-tier market where the options are geared to price. You can have real cider or industrial cider; real ice-cream or a product made with vegetable oil; real cheese properly matured or slab cheese with no noticeable flavour; real sausages or those made from slurry.

Food made properly, for those who care about how they feed their families, and junk for those who do not care or, more likely, cannot afford the option of good food — surely these options should not be embraced by a civilised society.

The lesson we should all learn from this festival, sponsored by *The Times*, *Sunday Times* and Wine, is that good food is not just for special occasions. If food is not good in every sense of the word we should not be producing it.

● *Derek Cooper is the presenter of Radio 4's* The Food Programme



Visitors to this year's festival will find a wealth of expert information and a huge variety of new tastes to try out

A feast for the gourmet palate

Michael Kallenbach on the pleasures awaiting visitors to the festival

More than 27,000 food and wine enthusiasts are expected to attend the International Festival of Fine Wine and Food being held at Olympia for four days from October 24.

From its beginnings 15 years ago as a gathering for wine buffs, the festival has evolved over the past three years into a celebration of both fine food and fine drink and the emphasis is now firmly directed at guiding discerning consumers towards gourmet foods and high quality beverages. There will be about 220 exhibitors, split evenly between those presenting food-oriented products, particularly speciality foods and ingredients, and those featuring wine, spirits, liqueurs and beers.

Displays will include British cheeses, Japanese dishes, Scottish delicacies, speciality foods, wine tours, cookery courses, international beers, and speciality drinks.

Demonstrations will be given on the mixing of cocktails and visitors to *The Sunday Times* Wine Club Taste Tunnel will be able to try single varietal wines and compare them to the aromas of the fruits, spices and herbs they are said to resemble.

Masterclasses sponsored by *WINE* magazine will feature tastings of classic vintages. All the major wine producing nations will be represented, displaying a comprehensive range of the differing styles and varieties of wines produced in the mid to upper price range.

Two new countries, Romania and the Ukraine, are making their debut on the British market. And while German beers will undoubtedly capture many palates, there will be other unusual beers from the Czech Republic and from South Africa.

A team of top chefs and wine experts will be passing on their secrets. Frances Bissell, *The Times* cook; Valentina Harris from Italy; Antony Worrall Thompson, bistro and Mediterranean specialist; and Bruno Loubet, from the Odeon restaurant on Regent Street, will be among the experts.

Alastair Little, whose new restaurant in Lancaster Road, near Portobello Road, is wooing the crowds away from Soho, will be there and has coincidentally just brought out his third cookery book *Italian Kitchen* (Ebury Press, £19.99). "Italian cookery," he says, "with its honesty and full, sun-ripened flavours, has never been more popular." The book is based on Little's cookery course at La Cacciata in Umbria.

More than 60 per cent of the food exhibitors are small specialist producers or importers of quality foods including farmhouse cheeses, foie gras, gourmet breads, oysters, olives, oils, chocolates, teas and coffees, and oriental sauces. There are also more exotic exhibits such as kangaroo, ostrich and alligator.

Leading supermarkets are promoting specific aspects of their business. Asda is sponsoring introduction to wine-tasting seminars, Tesco is showing its best-selling cheeses and sponsoring the British Cheese Awards Cheese Challenge and Sainsbury's is exhibiting its new fine foods section and showing why it has been chosen as best supermarket retailer of the year for the past two years by *Wine* magazine, which is co-sponsoring the festival with *The Times* and *The Sunday Times*.

● Because of the licensing laws, no children under 18 can be admitted.

INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF FINE WINE AND FOOD
OLYMPIA 2
24th - 27th OCTOBER 1996

Sampling the

Frances Bissell describes the joy of discovering all the culinary treasures on display at the festival

Whenever I give cookery demonstrations at the festival at Olympia, I try to leave myself plenty of time, before or after, to visit as many stands as I can. It is an excellent opportunity to taste new products and to get reacquainted with old favourites, and all under one roof.

On the whole, the products you see are from small, specialist producers in Britain and abroad, without the mass market capabilities required by the supermarkets. Some of the items, however, will undoubtedly find their way onto the specialist shelves of the supermarkets' flagship stores.

'You could taste your way through a whole meal'

If you were to plan your itinerary carefully, you could taste your way through a whole meal, although I am sorry to see the absence of specialist or organic meat producers this year, so no lovely smell of bangers to tempt you to the stand.

But you can sample your way from oysters to anchovies from Cuan Oysters and La Monegasque respectively, right through to a fine selection of chocolates and other delights for after dinner from The Chocolate Club and Clements E Companhia.

On the last stand, you will find Elvas plums, the authentic sugar plums so beloved of the Victorians at Christmas. Made in true artisan fashion and packed in attractive boxes with hand-painted ceramics, these sweetmeats also make lovely and unusual gifts. I visited the Conservas Rainha Santa in Portugal not long ago, one of only two remaining producers, and I was much taken with the painstaking care taken with the fruit at all stages of preserving it. Portuguese food has not been seen much in Britain, so the produce on this stand is particularly welcome.

As well as dried fruit, air-cured hams and chouricos from Lamego and Serra d'Estrela, you will find Conservas Rainha Santa cold-pressed extra virgin olive oil, and a range of infused wine vinegars, including one which contains wild oregano from the countryside around Estremos, which the family members pick themselves.

I shall also visit the Odysea stand to have a look at some of the special Greek products. Their Iliada extra virgin olive oil is superb, and I always stock up on their olives whenever I am in Selfridges. They will also be launching "gigantes" beans and *barbayannis*, a traditional Greek pasta from the northern mountains, as well as *krokos* saffron and *trahana*. This last is made from ground durum wheat, mixed with sheeps milk. When dried, the mixture is then crumbled or ground into rice-size pellets, not unlike large couscous. It is used in

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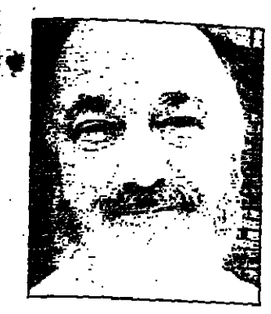


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It pays to get out of the kitchen



Top chefs do not make money from restaurants, but from their TV shows, books and brand names, says **Robin Young**

These days, chefs figure in *Who's Who*. Michel Roux, who cooks for the Queen at the Waterside Inn in Bray, Berkshire, is in there beside his former employers, the Rothschilds. Anton Mosimann, formerly of the Dorchester and now of the eponymous dining club in Belgravia, nudges in ahead of the Mosleys, and Raymond Blanc, of the Manoir aux Quat'Saisons, in Great Milton, Oxfordshire, has the entry following that of the president of Air France.

True, the national guide to the great and good has not yet admitted the *enfant terrible of haute cuisine*, Marco Pierre White, surely the hottest name in catering. Nor has it made room for three-star Michelin men such as Pierre Koffmann, of Tante Claire, and Nico Ladenis, of Chez Nico at 90 Park Lane, but it does accommodate Keith Floyd (a three-glass chef rather than three star). Inexplicably, Albert Roux appears only as an appendage to his younger brother, who is his co-author and television co-star.

Therein lies the point. It is their extra-curricular activities that bring these men fame and fortune. Leading chefs in Britain are now just as much involved in what the French call *le business* as their *confrères* on the Continent. Chefs no longer just cook in hotels and restaurants. They lead the national taste in matters of gastronomy. They are authors, television stars, promoters, franchisers and even, at their peak, brand names.

> 'Chefs no longer just cook. They lead the national taste'

It is their achievement, by virtue of the wider exposure they have won, to have dragged the British lunching and dining classes kicking and screaming into the 20th century just before it ends.

We have the authoritative word of the *Good Food Guide* that British catering is better than it has ever been. When the *Guide* was founded 45 years ago, yoghurt was unknown, olive oil was something you put in your ears to remove wax, and pepper was finely ground dust effective as sneezing powder and little else.

While Delia Smith, a phenomenally successful home cook, food writer and television populariser, but not making any claim to be professional chef or innovator, is still awakening slow learners to such things as cranberries, the competitive chefs at the forefront of the catering industry are hotfoot after every new ingredient, foreign cuisine or cooking style that might give them a competitive edge.

Their successful finds are quickly imitated by every other restaurant that can turn them to advantage, and are then picked up by the supermarket buyers, the Delia Smiths and the home cooks. Hence such suddenly ubiquitous phenomena as chargrilling, stirfries, ciabatta, pesto, rocket, balsamic vinegar, filo pastry, La Ratte and Belle de Fontenay potatoes, coconut milk, lemon grass, miso and salsa.

Coming next to a restaurant and then a supermarket near you, perhaps, tuna carpaccio, truffle oil, *ventreche* bacon, smoked garlic, air-dried puffin, Scandinavian cloud and lingonberries, Alfonso mangoes from India, Vidalia onions from the United States, or even Ireland's fabulously floury and strangely overlooked Queens potatoes.

A quick look at those *Who's Who* entries shows partly how it works. Michel Roux, for example, lists six books co-authored with brother Albert, and the television series. He does not list, though, the legion of chefs the brothers have trained and sometimes installed in other establishments: nor does he list their contract catering, their fine food import-export business, French butchery, and airline consultancies.

Mosimann lists two television series, eight books and a large collection of gold medals, honours and awards, but does not refer to the outside catering company, the kitchen equipment, cookery and cutlery range, or the Mosimann-branded fine foods. Even the laid-back Floyd gets paid to put his name to loaves on Safeway's shelves. You need not disbelieve the top men when they claim their restaurants do not pay. In such a labour-intensive industry it really is possible to produce dishes that cost £35 in man hours, ingredients and overheads. Customers then complain if they appear on the menu at, say, £26.

Top chefs work their hearts out, care passionately about what they are doing and test themselves to destruction to achieve their goals. But once they have made it into *le business* the rewards can be pretty satisfying, too.

Those *Who's Who* entries show Mosimann's recreation as "collecting art", Blanc's three Rs are "reading, riding and rock", and Michel Roux goes in for "shooting and skiing". A wider trawl of the headlines reveals that Richard Neate, of Pied-à-Terre, could contemplate retirement at 29, that when not in their kitchens our chefs are more than likely to be at luxury homes in the south of France, and that one raw newcomer to the Michelin stars, even before publishing his book, was giving his hobby as "scuba diving in Cambodia".

It is hot work in the kitchen, but pretty cool on the outside.



Mark Hix, whose philosophy is to keep his recipes simple, is a rising star in the superchef firmament

Babies have good taste

Michael Kallenbach on what turns a chef into a superchef

A BUTTERNUT squash recipe dreamt up by Mark Hix to use in a risotto proved so popular with his two-year-old twin daughters that it is being marketed this month by a new Glasgow-based company, The Original Babyfood Co, for its winter range.

Mr Hix is executive chef at two of London's most fashionable restaurants, Le Caprice and The Ivy, and, at 33, is one of the rising stars in the superchef firmament.

His move into the baby-food market is a result of his habit of experimenting with new recipes at home and sometimes asking his daughters to taste them. His own enthusiasm for new tastes and unusual ingredients will ensure that he will be exploring the various stands at the festival next week.

"Tastes have changed so much in recent years. People are much more aware of ingredients and and willing to try out new things," he says. "Coriander and lemon grass, for instance, are not a combination that would have been used in the past. Awareness now is largely due to the influence of major supermarkets and television. I personally like simple foods, especially those that use salads and herbs."

Mr Hix began cooking after rejecting metalwork in favour of a domestic science course at school and did his instructors proud with his first upside-down pineapple cake. He then opted for a two-year cookery course at Weymouth College where he found he had a knack for developing new skills and ideas.

His first job was at the Park Lane Hilton's staff canteen. He has worked at the Candlewick Room in the City which earned a red M in the Michelin Guide.

"My philosophy," he says, "is to keep it simple and affordable — unless you're splurging and opting for *foie gras* and truffles. Ideas develop from ideas. First I try something out with colleagues and then in the restaurant, and eventually it takes off with the customers."

Des McDonald is the head chef at The Ivy, and Kevin Gratton is his opposite number at Le Caprice. Mr Hix meets both of them for a quick breakfast every morning to iron out problems, by which time ingredients will have been ordered and delivered. "We taste and test the food throughout the day, and make sure the staff knows what is available." Each week he and the other chefs meet the proprietors for a tasting session.

As a consultant, Mr Hix has taken his skills as far afield as the Middle East and the Caribbean, and last year he was involved in launching Caprice Events to cater for the individual needs of regular clients.

The company was formed after *Vanity Fair* asked the restaurant to cater a charity dinner for 350 at the Serpentine Gallery in Hyde Park. More recently, Mr Hix flew to Long Island, in New York, especially to cook for a regular customer who desired his particular expertise.

Thirsty Brits have a nose for fine wine

Jane MacQuitty on the popularity of the mid-priced bottle of plonk

London is still the wine capital of the world. Nobody does it better than the UK's wine buyers, merchants, auctioneers, commentators and, yes, even wine writers. Our long-standing tradition of not producing much wine of our own and our location — slap bang in the middle of the modern wine-producing map — has made us a formidable source of wine expertise.

More tempting to the world's wine producers is our underdeveloped wine consumption. True, our annual per capita consumption of wine has grown in the past 30 years from a paltry two litres a head to an impressive 16 litres. And it is still growing at a healthy rate, up by over 15 per cent between 1994 and 1995. Compared with other Europeans, however, we are abstemious. The French drink more than anyone else, knocking back about 65 litres annually, about half the quantity they drank in the 1960s. The Italians and Portuguese, Europe's other dedicated wine drinkers, although consuming less than ever, manage to down about 60 litres a head.

> 'Chile had a 100 per cent increase in sales last year'

So the combination of saturation point reached on the Continent and our history of expertise in the wine world continues to ensure that the best bottles and top producers all consider the UK an obligatory stopover. In turn, this has encouraged our buyers to seek an increasingly wide range of wine.

Understandably, France continues to hog the largest share of the UK's wine shelf space — about a third. Italy is next with 15 per cent of the total UK wine market, in part because of the perpetual popularity of sweet, fizzy lambrusco. Germany is only 1 per cent behind, with the unlovely liebfraumilch and tafelwein hock the big Teutonic lines — sadly.

Much more encouraging news is the knowledge that Australian wine sales here now make up 10 per cent of the total and other New World wine producers such as South Africa are moving from nowhere towards 6 per cent. California and the rest of America are at 4 per cent, and Chile, another newcomer, achieves 3 per cent. Clearly, the UK's long-established wine suppliers, such as France and Germany, have lost out heavily to this increasingly strong New World competition, whose easy, upfront fruity wines with straightforward single-grape variety labels have wide appeal. And in case Old World producers want to persist in their ostrich-like ways, they should note that South Africa and Chile both experienced 100 per cent sales increases here last year.

Leading this new era of wine are the supermarkets, which between them account for 80 per cent of all wine bought in the UK. A further 9 per cent is split between wine warehouses, merchants and wine clubs. This puts the independent wine merchant's share at about 5 per cent. But though I sympathise with their dwindling trade and feel sore that most wine sold in this country is priced at £3.99 and below, there is not much point in whining, as some have, at prices such as £2.99, £3.99 and £4.99 considering the lack of money any of us have left in the kitty each week to spend on wine.

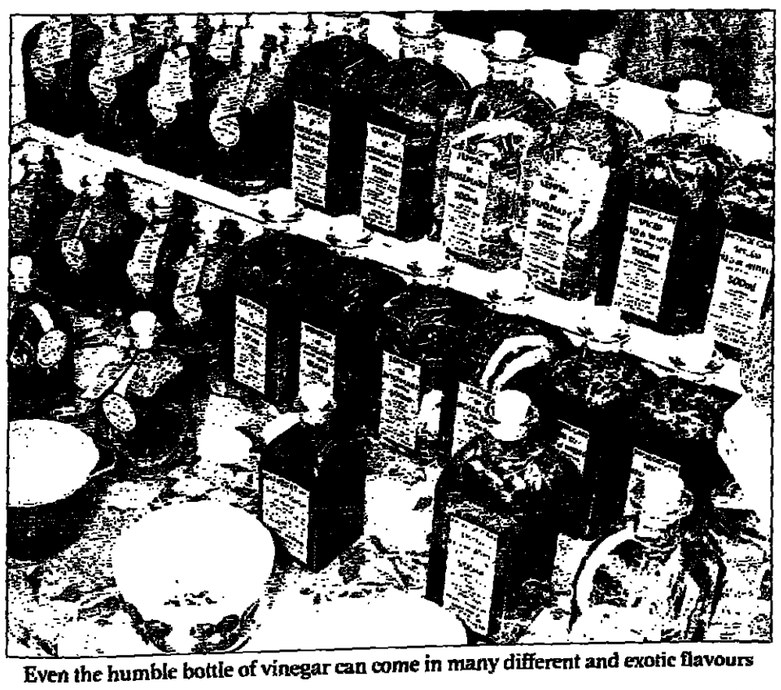
Wine merchants and writers regularly spread the word that once fixed costs for the £2.99 bottle, such as duty, shipping and bottling charges are considered, only a few pence is actually spent on the wine within. So you get one whole extra pound's worth of wine if you trade up to a £3.99 bottle and two pounds' worth if you trade up to a £4.99 bottle.

The message is beginning to filter through to the drinker: the £4 and £5 sector of the market is the fastest-growing by far, up by 12 per cent last year. But if you intend to drink wine every day, the £2.99 bottle still has life in it. It is, coincidentally, infinitely more difficult to find wines under £3 that are drinkable than say under £5, so look out for the first issue of *my Top 100 Wines of Winter* feature out next month.

Supermarkets are gradually starting to give their wine customers some of the perks that previously they would have found only at the better sort of wine merchant. Many are now offering free tatsings for their customers and providing advanced wine training schemes for their staff.

My hunch is that it's onwards and upwards for the UK's supermarket wines.

delights of the specialists



Even the humble bottle of vinegar can come in many different and exotic flavours

thick soups and stews, and to stuff vegetables — an excellent addition to the store cupboard staples.

Danmar International is the stand to visit if you love all things Italian. Pasta, organic extra virgin olive oils, vinegars and roasted vegetables in oil are just some of the lines on show. But you will also find lemon-infused olive oil and pasta made from emmer wheat.

Closer to home, there is much to please the anglophile gourmet. Mead and flavoured cordials, such as elderflowers and ginger could not be more traditional. At the James White stand, you will find a range of flavoured apple juices, such as apple and cinnamon and apple and blackberry, but I think their individual freshly pressed apple juices from Bramley, Cox and Russet are hard to beat. Not so much for drinking, but using as a cooking ingredient, I shall be nosing round a couple of drink stands: J Wray and Nephew for the Appleton Estate and King Offa Distillery for the Hereford Cider Brandy, Aperitif and Liqueurs. The latter will be very good in a custard to accompany an apple pie.

If you are looking for something to spice up your cooking, The Curry Sauce Company, Greenwich Herbs and Spices, Mrs Bassa's Indian Kitchen, Samarkand Gourmet Spice Blends and Karimix should, between them, have some for you. On the last stand, you will find some unusual pickles and relishes with flavours of Malaysia, Indonesia and Sri Lanka, such as aubergine pickle, pineapple achar, and a Sri Lankan tamarind chutney.

After all this exotic and flavoursome food, a hunk of good bread would be just the thing. Until relatively recently, good bread was what you made at home. But a number of small independent bakers have been making a name for themselves, and their uncompromising standards. They are now joined by, among others, De Gustibus, Baker, Dan Schickentanz, uses nothing but organic flour, purified water, and sea salt to make his bread, but perhaps his most important ingredient is time. Bread that is allowed to ferment slowly is incomparable, and this year a six-day sourdough bread will be featured.

To go with good bread, there is nothing better than good cheese. And no cheese is better than British cheese. You will find the real Wensleydale made at Hawes creamery on the Wensleydale Dairy Products stand, and a bronze medal winning vintage farmhouse cheddar from Lye Cross Farm on the Alvis Bros stand. But to see and taste the wherewithal to select a world class cheeseboard, save plenty of time to visit the Cheese Challenge on the British Cheese Awards stand. I know I will.

Just a few weeks ago, 469 British and Irish cheeses were entered for the awards. Like was compared with like in a large number of different classes, and only the best gained medals. The supreme champion was the Lincolnshire Poacher, a modern British hard cheese, characteristic of the region, whilst the best new comer was a hard unpasteurised buffalo milk cheese, made by Malvern Cheesewrights. I have found this a good cheese to serve to guests who like to play guessing games. Indeed, it is a very long time since I have served other than a British cheeseboard to guests. Here on the stand, you will be able to meet some of the cheese makers, and taste their produce, and the Cheese Challenge will enable you to test your knowledge of British cheeses, with questions and a tasting.

INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF FINE WINE AND FOOD

The Gourmet's Paradise

OLYMPIA 2

24th - 27th OCTOBER 1996

Opening Times

Thursday 24 October	11am-7pm
Friday 25 October	11am-7pm
Saturday 26 October	11am-6pm
Sunday 27 October	11am-6pm

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Taste wines with the experts

Michael Kallenbach on the widening appeal of the grape



The snobbishness once attached to wine drinking has gone, and fine wine is as likely to be found in the supermarket as the specialist retailer

Novice drinkers as well as wine connoisseurs will be able to indulge in wine-tasting rituals at the festival and there will be plenty of opportunities to exchange opinions and ideas and discover bargains.

There will be 48 advanced tutored tastings on specialised themes such as "entertaining with bordeaux" and "Californian wine styles". And in line with the current popularity of expertly matching foods with wines, there will be a room featuring seminars such as pairing chardonnay with smoked foods, and Spanish seafood with sherry.

Philip MacGregor, who will hold several wine tastings during this year's festival, says that in recent years the snobbishness has gone, and that fine wine is as likely to be available in a supermarket as it is in a specialised wine store.

Mr MacGregor has been tasting and testing wines for 12 years and will be among the presenters at "Swirl, Sniff and Slurp" arranged by the Association of Wine Educators. The association will be organising as many as 40 tastings during next week's show.

One session will focus on the technique of tasting, another will examine essential differences between wines of the New World and the Old World, and a third will explore forgotten grape varieties.

In the art of slurping, Mr MacGregor will painstakingly explain the mysterious procedures and language of tasting and the reasons behind them.

"Once people get to like wine, they want to know more about it," he says.

Wine tasters like Mr MacGregor are insistent that they should not become involved in selling wines. "We sell education, not the product. If the customer likes it, they must get it themselves, otherwise we can't be objective."

For those who are interested in gaining diplomas and certificates, Gareth Lawrence, course manager at the Wine and Spirit Education Trust, is the man to talk to. Coming from a family who were involved in the wine trade, Mr Lawrence teaches a wide range of courses, from those for pure beginners to others for the more advanced, involving a diploma course over two years which costs £550.

During the festival, the Trust will explain details of materclass tasting, and have on hand a wide variety of chardonnay wines from countries such as Hungary and France.

In addition, "Wine and Wood" will show how the ageing of wine in various types of cask can affect the final flavour.

MrLawrence points out that the trust, which has been in existence for 25 years, is committed to providing high quality wine education, not only for the trade, but increasingly for the consumer.

Wine experts point to the increase in sales over recent years, and attribute much of the success to New World wines, their easy-to-read and pronounce labels, coupled with major promotion campaigns by leading supermarkets. Non-French speakers, for instance, need not feel embarrassed if they do not know how to pronounce Chateau Neuf du Pape. Instead they can opt for a Glen Ellen from California, or a shiraz from Australia.

Penny Thair, Asda's wine marketing manager who will represent her company next week at Olympia 2, attributes the increase in wine sales to more affordable prices. "Beer and wine are not mutually exclusive," she points out.

She adds: "In the past women rarely ventured into liquor stores, and if they did, they were made to feel rather uncomfortable. But women are no longer intimidated since in supermarkets there are always a good range of wines available."

Historically, older men have always taken to wine and younger women, she says, but all that is changing now. "These days interest is divided 50-50 along gender lines."

Mr MacGregor, who will be explaining grape varieties during his tastings, agrees that that wine courses today attract both sexes and age is never a barrier.

A rare chance to sample the world's best

From high-street regulars to niche wines, all you need is a glass

THE International Festival offers wine enthusiasts a rare opportunity to sample hundreds of different wines. Most of the wines at the show are easily available from supermarkets or high-street chains (and you can buy your discoveries on the spot) but some are produced in small quantities, or are "niche" wines.

Once you have gained entry to the show, all you need to do is buy a glass. You can then tour the vast fair, tasting anything you fancy. First stop for the adventurous is the English Wine Producers stand (G70). Home-grown wines, as opposed to exotica flown in from foreign parts, might seem laughable in our cold, damp climate, but, prejudice apart, you could find yourself surprised by their quality.

If you suspect your taste lies in a particular direction, the generics that represent individual countries are worth checking. The New Zealand Wine Guild (G26) will be showing crisp sauvignon blancs from the boutique wineries of Vavasour and Dashwood, and traditionalists can sample the white wines offered by the German Wine Information Service (G50).

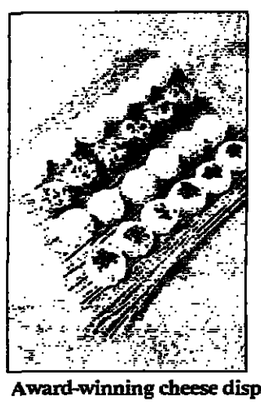
The Greek Wine Bureau (G51) will show wines from the islands of Cephalonia and Samos, made from native Greek grapes, and the Portuguese stand (ICEP-Portuguese Trade & Tourism Office, F44) is planning a line-up of wines from new areas such as Bucelas, north of Lisbon, and Beiras in central Portugal.

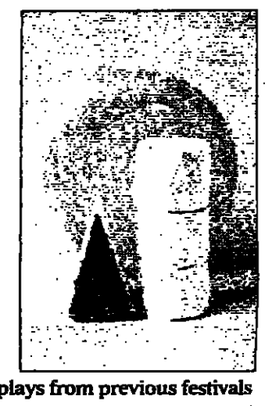
The Wine Institute of California (G7) will be featuring a selection of organic wines from individual importers; Semax international (M9), will be showing a selection of Ukrainian wines; Caxton Tower (G21 & S3) is offering wines from Argentina (Etchart) and Hungary (Kavar) and Freixenet (F14), will be offering wines from Spain's Somontano region (Vinas del Vero).

Those who like their wine to pack a little more punch could do worse than linger at the Port Wine Institute stand (G20), which will be featuring ports in every style, produced by more than 40 companies. Critics who think that drinking sherry is the preserve of sociable vicars and sweet-toothed maiden aunts should visit the Sherry Institute of Spain (G41). Instead of cloyingly sweet lukewarm confections, you'll find 57 sherries in every style, from crisp, delicate, chilled Fino, to the nutty complexity of an Oloroso.

Identifying the flamboyant metaphors that wine writers use to describe wine can be a problem, but inspiration for the tongue-tied comes in the form of the Taste Tunnel. Here you can sniff tobacco leaves and Liquorice Allsorts while nosing a syrah and rehearse those dinner party gambits guaranteed to reduce witty rivals to awed silence. "Ah yes, that unmistakable aroma of eucalyptus and wild Languedoc herbs. Would you say this oak-aged syrah was typical of southern France?"

CASILDA GRIGG





Award-winning cheese displays from previous festivals

How to cope with a joyous bounty

Look around the stalls before you start your eating and drinking

For anyone with a passion for food and wine, a day spent eating and drinking sounds like heaven. However, if you've never been to a food festival, it is as well to be aware of the pitfalls.

The first problem is that the stands are not arranged in any logical order. Well, not as far as your stomach is concerned. You can — and probably will — find yourself sampling Christmas cake, followed by smoked salmon, chocolate and sushi. The only thing to do if you want to be sure to avoid what the French call a *crise de foi* (upset tum) is to have a good look around first. Make a mental note of what you want to taste then plan a reasonable gastronomic running order.

However, the discomfort of overeating pales into insignificance against the more drastic effect of consuming too much alcohol. When you have poured a glass of perfectly nice wine, the natural reaction is to take a sip, think "Mmmm that's nice" and polish off the glass. If you do that half a dozen times (depending on your level of tolerance) you feel pleasantly lightheaded. Do it 12 times and you'll find yourself having to clutch on to your fellow passengers for support on the way home on the Tube.

What you need to do is what the professionals do at a wine tasting. Spit it out. It might sound quite disgusting, but it's the only way. Most stands will have a spittoon handy (even if it is only a cardboard box lined with a bin bag) and plenty of other people will be doing it, too.

You may wonder how you can actually taste wine if you spit it out: it's a question of a little technique and a lot of practise. Take a sip of wine, suck air between your teeth in short bursts while holding it in your mouth (it is a bit noisy but don't worry) then take aim and spit. (As a novice spitter it is advisable not to wear light-coloured clothing or your best suede boots).

If you cannot bring yourself to spit, you have no alternative but to be selective. Again, it is worth having a plan of action. Focus on one particular type of wine you might want to buy, such as a good red for Christmas or an inexpensive sparkler for a party, and ask each stand to recommend a suitable product. Or take a wine producing area you don't know much about — such as Chile or South Africa — and concentrate on their wines. It is worth taking a notebook along and recording your impressions as there is a fair chance you will not be able to remember all that you have tasted.

Making sure you are in peak form to tackle a day as indulgent as this one. Do not go on an empty stomach or on top of a hefty fry-up, unless that is what you eat every morning. Try to drink plenty of water during the course of the day.

What if you ignore all this good advice and overdo it? How do you deal with the hangover? Personally, I'm not a member of the Fernet Branca school of hangover cures — which is to swallow something so repellant it shocks the system into submission.

The answer is simply to drink as much water as you can before you go to bed and start the next day with a huge glass of freshly squeezed orange juice and couple of aspirin. Then you'll be ready to face the world.

FIONA BECKETT

'On the whole, any food goes with any wine if conversation is buzzing'

Navigate the dinner-party minefield



CLEMENT FREUD

Food and wine unite people... and people unite food and wine: cakes and ale, cheese and wine. Exactly what to eat with which food has long been a subject for debate. Ask a hundred people and the top answers will be: "I don't know a lot about wine but I know what I like"; "Any wine so long as it is white, sweet and cold"; "I'll have what the rest of you are having."

Restaurant wine lists suggest that certain wines are suitable to drink with particular foods "excellent with fish or chicken" is writ after a white Burgundy; "wonderful with seafood" after a New Zealand Sauvignon. Should you believe them? Why not? They want you to come back. Is it sensible to ask the wine waiter for advice? Yes and no. Yes if you ask: "What is the best light red wine under £15 to go with my mixed grill?" No if one of you orders steak, the other fish stew and you want to economise. (Pointless to ask whether the sommelier would recommend the pink plonk at £8. The more expensive your wine, the bigger is his tip, so he would be insane to tell you that pink plonk at £8 is ace, especially as it will not be.)

There are in food and wine a few marriages made in heaven: walnuts and vintage port spring to mind; ripe white peaches with champagne... so brilliant that Italians liquidise the fruit, add it to the wine and call it a Bellini. Goose liver, with or without truffles is enhanced by glasses of very cold dessert wine, Chateau d'Yquem if money is no object, but there are excellent first growth barsaos: Climens, Rieussec, Suduirot and Coutet cost far less and are very fine. Store the glasses in the deep freeze.

There are combinations of food and drink which are strictly for the home: braised oxtail which deserves strong ale to quaff rather than sip; Irish stew with which nothing is as right as a nice hot cup of strong Indian tea. You cannot have that in restaurants, not even with the mark-up on tea at 1,000 per cent. When it comes to profit, restaurants need high volume and even a big gain on a 10p commodity is only just enough to pay for the one in 24 teaspoons nicked by customers, the one in 16 cups or saucers or both broken by waiters, not forgetting the crooked cashier.

I believe that Beluga caviar is better accompanied by overproof lemon vodka; and I advise home consumption because it is difficult to leave restaurants after a few glasses of super-alcoholic nectar. And I believe that it is pointless giving people better fare than they can appreciate. There are a huge number of men and women who truly don't care about food and drink (I think I have had most of them to dinner in a journalistic capacity). To them, it is the thought that counts; the label or the shape of the bottle is more important than the contents.

Give them champagne; champagne goes with just about any food and if £15 a bottle, about as cheap as decent champagne gets, is too high a price to pay, there are many good sparkling wines in champagne-shaped bottles. The Australians make excellent sparklers for under £7. Try Yalumba.

Rather as it is always a mistake to experiment with food when you have guests you want to impress, so make sure the wine you serve is tried and more or less trusted. Read wine writers, buy what they recommend and if you like what you purchase, accept that this is a writer whose tastes you endorse and buy other suggestions he or she publishes. (If you disapprove of his or her selections, read another columnist.) On the whole, any wine goes with any food, especially if the conversation is buzzing, but avoid obvious pitfalls: wine at the wrong temperature; red wine with shellfish; acidic salads when you are drinking soft smooth red wines.

Watercress does funny things to your palate — makes it very hard to appreciate good wine, does a plate of watercress salad. So, look on the bright side, if the wine you have bought is iffy, bring on watercress.

When the French want a dinner party to end, along comes a tray of glasses containing grapefruit juice, shorthand for 'time to go home.' As this signal is not internationally understood, we tend to lower the quality of what people are drinking and just hope they take the hint.

British cheeses top the taste test

Juliet J. Harbutt on the successful revival of the cheesemaker's craft

At this year's British Cheese Awards, sponsored by Tesco, there were 469 entries spread over 53 different classes. Eighty-seven were Cheddars, 63 goat and 144 unpasteurised — they ranged from the sublime to the occasionally truly ridiculous, unless you like the idea of Cheddar with chocolate chip.

The judges select only the best, which are given the right to carry the symbol of excellence, a gold, silver or bronze medal rather than simply choosing first, second or third — an impossible task if all the cheeses are wonderful or worse if they are not.

British cheese has come a long way in the last ten years and is as good as anything you will find in Europe. At a recent tasting, I threw down the gourmet gauntlet to some chefs, who will remain nameless, to name the country of origin of 25 artisan cheeses.

Shoulder-shrugging and superior laughter was followed by sniffing, prodding and furious munching as the cheeses proved more challenging than expected.

The tiny goat cheese and the wickedly creamy ones with pungent aromas were assumed to be French. Hard cheese with unusual tastes were mostly picked as goat or ewe's milk cheese from Spain. Britain was given credit for the wonderful, hard crumbly cheeses for which we are best known — Cheshire, Wensleydale, Caerphilly and Lancashire but the Cheddar-like cheese with its rich nutty complex flavour was presumed to be Italian or French.

The blues were the most controversial. The chefs felt it was unfair to include obscure European artisan blues which rarely find their way to the British market.

At the end, when I reviewed the results, I was not popular. The cheeses were *all* British, demonstrating that the renaissance of British artisan or farmhouse cheeses is not just a marketing ploy.

The voluptuous goat's milk "Camembert" was delicious, the sheep's milk blue indescribably good and the hard cheeses of unusual flavours were superb examples of modern British cheese — hard cheeses made using the Cheddar process from cow, goat, sheep and even buffalo milk.

And of course the rich nutty cheese was quite simply a magnificent example of a clothbound, matured, unpasteurised Cheddar.

To discover how much you really know about British cheese come to the British Cheese Awards Cheese Challenge at the festival and taste 16 of the medal winners from this year's awards, including the Supreme Champion. You will not be disappointed.

Go to school in the kitchen

Elaine Hallgarten looks at the options for improving culinary skills

Modern wannabee good cooks have endless opportunities — with wall-to-wall food programmes beaming out across the ether. But if you fancy something a bit more personal, the choice is as ever-expanding as your waistline.

Two exhibitors at the festival offer very different possibilities. At the Edinburgh Cookery School, 43 Blackford Road, Edinburgh (0131-667 3960), they have been teaching Cordon Bleu style cooking for ten years. Jill Davidson, the principal, on Stand 11, can explain their various courses, many of which will appeal to those looking for a chance to learn about good cooking and at the same time enjoy the city of Edinburgh.

On Stand 14 is the Rhode School of Cuisine, 29 Holland Villas Road, west London (0171-603 0850). The glorious settings for their courses, in the South of France and Tuscany, are every bit as mouth-watering as the food you will learn to cook under the guidance of their chef Frederick Riviere.

Susanna Gelmetti's courses in Umbria would certainly be your *tazza di te* if you share her passion for Italian food. She believes that Italian cuisine must be taught by Italians — her chef is, she states, "a genius" — the youngest Michelin three star chef in Italy. (0181-208 0112).

On the other hand, French Country Kitchen Holidays (0171-924 7982), based in the Lot et Garonne, are taught by a collection of well-known British chefs. Tuition is interspersed with visits to the market and much eating and drinking.

Ireland is a favourite holiday destination, with good food too. Many of the country's best chefs have been inspired by Myrtle and Darina Allen at Ballymaloe. Ballymaloe Cookery School (Shanagarry, Co Cork, Ireland (00 353 21 646785) is ideal for a short course and the opportunity to enjoy the special charm of County Cork.

London's cookery schools — Cordon Bleu at 114 Marylebone Lane, W1M 6HH (0171-935 3503) and Leith's School of Food and Wine at 21 St Alban's Grove, W8 5BP (0171-229 0177) — are geared to serious professional students but also run shorter courses for the amateur. Thierry Dumouchel, technical director of the Cordon Bleu, believes that after only one lesson you should be able to cook a wonderful meal at home. Leith's director, C J Jackson, thinks cooks can gain confidence as well as ideas and recipes.

Her views are echoed by Linda Collister, author of the recently published *The Baking Book*, whose career started with a Cordon Bleu course.

Busy working people who entertain single-handed are targeted in Lyn Hall's Bachelor Cooks course. She has teamed up with kitchen designers Bulthaup to run a series of classes. Participants cook and eat a complete menu, developing invaluable cooking skills. (0171-584 6841).

Entertaining Ideas (07050-387 387) are just that — cookery demonstrations in a kitchen in London's Portobello Road. The combination of plenty of food and wine and the chance to learn the secrets of some of London's glitziest chefs is proving to be a huge success. Such luminaries as Anton Edelmann of The Savoy, Matthew Harris of Bibendum and Jean Christophe Novelli are among the line-up.



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RUGBY LEAGUE

Great Britain face test of tactics and temperament

FROM CHRISTOPHER IRVINE IN AUCKLAND

GREAT Britain have had anything but an enjoyable time since their arrival in New Zealand. The first match was drawn and the second lost, yet their self-belief is intact on the eve of the three-match international series that starts here tomorrow.

For the underdogs to justify their apparent confidence, Britain must resist the temptation to throw the ball about, a tactic that proved successful in Fiji and Papua New Guinea. New Zealand, who possess a big and highly mobile pack, must first be ground down.

Terry O'Connor's recall brings a reassuring, driving presence to the front row. O'Connor, the Wigan prop, was a disappointment against Papua New Guinea, but has worked hard since. His return is the only change to the side involved in the record 72-4 defeat of Fiji, a result that will have little bearing on the forthcoming series.

It is 12 years since Britain were last beaten over three matches by New Zealand. Notable under-achievers since then, the emergence of a solid home team — rather than one of disparate talents flung together — stems from the advent, two years ago, of Auckland Warriors.

Ten of the 17 players in the New Zealand squad play for Warriors and will be on home soil tomorrow at Ericsson Stadium, which was built within the crater of an extinct volcano. Under floodlights yesterday, Britain were reacquainted with the venue at which they secured the 1990 series.

Phil Larder, the Britain coach, is without Robinson, Connolly and Newlove, and is therefore at least three players short of an obvious winning formula. It is the spirit in a young side, similar to the one in 1990, that he must summon.

The players are "mature enough" to recover from the disappointments so far, Larder said. "Those two games should smarten us up and emphasise the way we must play. There's a lot of football in us, but first we need to build the foundations. There is certainly no problem with confidence."

Larder recognises the contribution of Auckland and the fact that New Zealand, who have just beaten Paupua New Guinea 2-0, are more formidable now than at any time. He is aware, too, that they previously flattered to deceive. "Watching them against Papua, I was thoroughly impressed, but we've studied them closely and there are weaknesses we can exploit if we can play the way we can," he said.

Six years ago, Bobbie Goulding struck up a half-back partnership with Garry Schofield that brought Britain victory, and he is developing a similar rapport with Iestyn Harris. The two are rooming together and spark off each other, on and off the pitch. It is in midfield, with Andrew Farrell an inspirational leader, that Britain can cause an upset, provided that the containment job is done first.

The way that Britain disintegrated against a National League team before recovering to draw will have greatly encouraged New Zealand, who give Tyran Smith a full debut at loose forward, and bring Logan Swann, an Auckland reserve-team player who figured in the 30-22 defeat of the Great Britain midweek side by an invitation XIII on Tuesday, to the substitutes' bench. Larder has delayed naming his four substitutes.

☐ St Helens are leading the race to sign Richie Blackmore, the New Zealand centre. Formerly with Castleford, Blackmore is keen to return for a second spell in Britain. David Howes, the St Helens chief executive, said: "We are interested in signing Richie, who has alerted several clubs he is available."

TEAMS

NEW ZEALAND (Auckland unless stated): M Ridge (captain), S Hoppe (Canterbury), R Blackmore, J Timu (Canterbury), R Barnett, G Ngamu, S Jones, G Young (South Queensland), S Eru, Q Ponga (Canberra), S Kearney, T Iro (Sydney City), T Smith (South Sydney). Substitutes: R Wiki (Canberra), M Ellis, J Vagana, L Swann.

GREAT BRITAIN: S Spruce (Bradford), A Hunte (St Helens), K Radlinski (Wigan), D Powell (Keighley), A Sullivan (St Helens), I Harris, (Warrington), R Goulding (St Helens), P Broadbent (Sheffield), K Cunningham (St Helens), T O'Connor (Wigan), P Southorpe (Warrington), D Betts (Auckland), A Farrell (Wigan, captain). Substitutes: to be confirmed.

Referee: W Hanigan (Australia).



LASZLO BALOGH

Lisztes, of Ferencvaros, comes away with the ball despite the close attentions of the grounded Beardsley and Batty during Newcastle's 3-2 defeat

Beardsley takes blame after slack display

BY DAVID MADDOCK

IT IS becoming just a little predictable now. On just about every occasion Newcastle United venture into Europe, they return with familiar questions still waiting to be answered. Can they ever learn? Can they ever change?

Newcastle display an instinct for adventure that borders on the foolhardy. It might have been supressed in the FA Carling Premiership, but not in Europe, oh no.

The 3-2 defeat in their Uefa Cup second-round, first-leg tie against Ferencvaros in Budapest on Tuesday evening, was, on the face of it, a reasonable result. A positive outcome in the return leg is eminently achievable. There were indications, however, that all is still not well with the North East club, despite their currently lofty position at the top of the Premiership. It was not the defending that provides cause for concern — although it was dreadful — but the inability to control the tempo of the game.

During his press conference, conducted in Hungarian, Zoltan Varga, the Ferencvaros coach, repeated several times one word that was identifiable. Possession, he said, and it is at the root of Newcastle's problems.

They are a more talented side than the Hungarians and should have won comfortably. The reason for defeat was simple; they gave the ball away far too often. "They caused us problems when they had the ball, but they also allowed us a lot of possession, which made an entertaining game," Varga said. "I was surprised how easily they surrendered possession, because it made our task easier."

Newcastle will progress no further in the Uefa Cup, if they cannot quickly digest the simple fact that teams must retain possession in Europe to dictate the rhythm and flow of a game. It is a point that is not lost on Peter Beardsley, the one player in the Newcastle side who treats the football as a treasured belonging.

It was a surprise when he gave away possession to gift the Hungarians a third goal, and he conceded: "I am to blame for the defeat, because it was a bad place to give the ball away. We never do things easily at Newcastle. We set out to slow the game down, dictate the pace, and instead fell two goals behind very quickly. We made mistakes because we let them into the game far too much. We can't afford to give the ball away like we did, and we were punished for it."

Not that there is real despondency around Newcastle at the moment because, as Beardsley explained, it was still a reasonable result. "We have left ourselves with the job of getting a 1-0 win at home, and that's not too bad," he said. "If we do that, then our 3-2 defeat will look a very good result, and nobody will be saying we were too cavalier."

RUGBY UNION

Junior Springboks line up grand slam of A team games

BY DAVID HANDS, RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

WHILE South Africa's senior players wend their way through Argentina and France, before concluding their activities for the year against Wales on December 15, their development team will play 12 games in Great Britain, which include a mini grand slam against the A teams of the four home unions.

The purpose of the Junior Springboks tour is to expose younger players, both from South Africa and their hosts, to a higher level of rugby, but, as is so often the case, the trick is to sprinkle enough experience among the party to give it some backbone. Even so, the party, which will start against Cambridge University on November 2, has attracted criticism at home for its apparent failure to address positions of acknowledged weakness.

Nevertheless, it seems likely to provide stiff opposition for British sides, notably in the set pieces where the front-row forwards include Ollie le Roux, the bull-like prop against whom England played in 1994, and Naka Drotske, the Free State hooker, who came into the 1995 World Cup party as a replacement. Another prop, Adrian Garvey, played for Zimbabwe in the 1991 World Cup before moving to Natal, for whom he was a force in this year's Super 12 tournament.

The backs include Louis Koen, the young Western Province stand-off half who has replaced the out-of-sorts Joel Stransky at provincial level. Stransky, whose dropped goal won South Africa the World Cup, played in the Sanzar series during the summer but has not made the senior touring party after a lacklustre season.

Two of the scheduled matches will act as curtain-raisers to senior internationals: on November 12 the Junior Springboks play Ireland A at Lansdowne Road before Ireland's floodlit meeting with Western Samoa. Eleven days later they will be in midday action against London Counties at Twickenham before England's opening match of their international season, against Italy.

The touring side is due to play all four English regional sides, assuming that some means of selection can be worked out. The clubs seek no part in any divisional or regional teams, which the union still regards as a necessary development step between club and international rugby: as it is there is a litter of A internationals in the late autumn, and one week in December when England field three different A teams in four days against Argentina, the Junior Springboks and Queensland.

SOUTH AFRICA A PARTY: Backs: D du Toit (Northern Transvaal), R Laubscher (Eastern Province), J Gillingham (Transvaal), J Joubert (Natal), D Kayser (Eastern Province), H Venter (Northern Transvaal), C Breda (Northern Transvaal), M Moolman (Boland), T Linee (Western Province), M Hendriks (Boland), E Lubbe (Griqualand West), M Smity (Free State), L Koen (Western Province), C Lotter (Boland), G Scholtz (Western Province). Forwards: D Sandton (Boland), N Drotske (Free State), R Kempson (Natal), O le Roux (Natal), D Venter (Griqualand West), A Garvey (Natal), C du Plessis (Western Province), R Oppermen (Free State), W Basson (Northern Transvaal), B Els (Free State), J Coetzee (Boland), F Tima (Eastern Province), C Krige (Western Province), T Arendse (Western Province), P Smith (Griqueland West), J Williams (Northern Transvaal), J Erasmus (Free State).

ITINERARY: November 2: v Cambridge University; Nov 4: v Bedford; Nov 8: v Scotland A (Hawick); Nov 12: v Ireland A (Lansdowne Road); Nov 16: v Oxford University; Nov 20: v Western Counties (Bath); Nov 23: v London Counties (Twickenham, 12.30); Nov 27: v Northern Counties (Gateshead) December 1: v Midland Counties (Coventry); Dec 4: v Bristol; Dec 11: v England A (Gloucester); Dec 14: v Wales A (Swansea).

Bristol find themselves in no-win situation

BRISTOL will lose their European Conference pool B match with Narbonne this weekend, without taking the pitch, if they do not stage the game on Saturday, instead of Sunday — as planned.

The club received the news from European Rugby Cup (ERC) officials by post yesterday and claim that they are now in an impossible situation. "We cannot stage the game on Saturday because Bristol Rovers, who share our ground, are playing a second division match against Blackpool," Dave Tyler, the Bristol general manager, said.

"The Sunday date was arranged weeks ago after we explained the whole ground-share situation to Narbonne," Tyler added.

However, René Bes, the Narbonne secretary, said: "We cannot play on Sunday for two reasons. We have reserved a flight for Sunday morning and our players are not professionals. They have to be in factories and offices first thing on Monday morning."

Tyler was due to meet last night with Bes and other Narbonne officials at Treorchy, where the French club were playing, in an attempt to resolve the problem. "It is ridiculous for ERC to say we must concede the game. We attended a meeting last July, when it was stated that arrangements regarding dates and kick-off times would be determined by the home team," he said.

TUESDAY NIGHT'S LATE RESULTS

UEFA CUP: Second round, first leg: Aberdeen 0 Brondby IF (Den) 2; Ferencvaros (Hun) 3 Newcastle United 2; Schalke 04 (Ger) 1 Tratzonspor (Tur) 0; Metz (Fr) 2 Sporting Lisbon (Por) 0; Legia Warsaw (Pol) 1 Besiktas (Tur) 1; Karlsruhe (Ger) 3 AS Roma (It) 0; Slavia Prague (Cz) 0 Valencia (Sp) 1; FC Bruges (Bel) 2 National Bucharest (Rom) 0; Helsingborg IF (Swe) 2 Neuchatel Xamax (Switz) 0; Internazionale (It) 1 Casino Graz (Austria) 0; Borussia Mönchengladbach (Ger) 2 AS Monaco (Fr) 4; Lazio (It) 1 Tenerife (Sp) 0; Espanol (Sp) 0 Feyenoord (Holl) 3; Vitona Guimaraes (Por) 1 Anderlecht (Bel) 1.

NATIONWIDE LEAGUE: First division: Barnsley 0 Oxford United 0; Birmingham City 1 Ipswich Town 0; Bolton Wanderers 1 Tranmere Rovers 0; Portsmouth 0 Wolverhampton Wanderers 2; Reading 2 Manchester City 0; Sheffield United 3 Charlton Athletic 0.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Bolton	12	9	2	1	26	14	29
Norwich	11	7	3	1	17	7	24
Wolvhmptn	13	6	3	4	18	13	21
Barnsley	11	6	3	2	17	10	21
Tranmere	13	5	4	4	16	14	19
Crystal Palace	11	4	5	1	23	10	18
Sheff Utd	10	5	2	3	19	12	17
Huddersfield	10	5	2	3	17	12	17
Stoke	12	4	3	5	17	15	15
Oxford Utd	12	4	3	5	13	9	15
Birmingham	10	4	3	3	12	10	15
Ipswich	12	3	5	4	17	17	14
West Brom	10	3	5	2	14	13	14
QPR	12	3	5	4	14	16	14
Reading	12	4	2	6	14	22	14
Portsmouth	13	4	2	7	13	19	14
Swindon	11	4	2	5	12	13	14
Man City	11	4	1	6	11	15	13
Port Vale	12	2	7	3	10	14	13
Grimsby	12	3	3	6	15	24	12
Southend	12	2	5	5	12	23	11
Bradford	12	3	2	7	9	19	11
Charlton	10	3	1	6	7	13	10
Oldham	12	1	3	8	12	20	6

SECOND DIVISION: Blackpool 3 Wrexham 3; Bournemouth 1 Plymouth Argyle 0; Bristol City 3 Wycombe Wanderers 0; Crewe Alexandra 0 York City 1; Notts County 0 Chesterfield 0; Peterborough United 0 Brentford 1; Rotherham United 0 Bristol Rovers 0; Shrewsbury Town 1 Gillingham 2; Stockport County 1 Luton Town 1; Walsall 1 Preston North End 0; Watford 2 Burnley 2

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Brentford	13	9	3	1	26	14	30
Bury	12	7	3	2	17	10	24
Watford	13	7	3	3	15	12	24
Crewe	13	7	1	5	18	14	22
Millwall	12	6	3	3	22	16	21
Wrexham	12	5	6	1	18	14	21
Chesterfield	13	6	3	4	10	10	21
Bristol City	13	6	2	5	25	18	20
Luton	12	6	2	4	15	14	20
Bristol Rovers	13	5	5	3	13	10	20
Stockport	13	5	3	5	16	18	18
Burnley	13	5	2	6	19	18	17
Gillingham	13	5	2	6	14	16	17
Plymouth	13	4	4	5	15	18	16
Blackpool	13	4	4	5	14	15	16
Shrewsbury	13	4	4	5	13	17	16
Bournemouth	13	5	1	7	12	14	16
Peterborough	13	3	6	4	23	23	15
Walsall	13	4	2	7	13	18	14
Notts County	13	3	5	5	10	11	14
York	13	3	4	6	16	20	13
Wycombe	13	2	4	7	14	22	10
Preston	13	3	1	9	11	17	10
Rotherham	13	2	3	8	13	23	9

THIRD DIVISION: Brighton and Hove Albion 0 Hereford United 1; Cardiff City 2 Darlington 0; Colchester United 1 Barnet 0; Exeter City 2 Carlisle United 1; Fulham 3 Cambridge United 0; Hartlepool United 1 Swansea City 1; Leyton Orient 0 Chester City 0; Mansfield Town 0 Wigan Athletic 1; Rochdale 2 Lincoln City 0; Scarborough 3 Hull City 2; Scunthorpe United 2 Northampton Town 1; Torquay United 1 Doncaster Rovers 0.

VAUXHALL CONFERENCE: Dover Athletic 0 Farnborough Town 0; Kettering Town 0 Hednesford Town 2; Macclesfield Town 2 Stalybridge Celtic 0; Telford United 1 Bath City 1; Welling United 1 Hayes 0; Woking 3 Stevenage Borough 1.

BELL'S SCOTTISH LEAGUE: First division: Stirling Albion 1 St Johnstone 3; Airdrieonians 2 St Mirren 2.

UEFA UNDER-18 CHAMPIONSHIP: Qualifying round: Scotland 1 Lithuania 1; Wales 0 Holland 2.

UNIBOND LEAGUE: Premier division: Barrow 3 Chorley 0; Buxton 0 Boston 2; Marine 2 Knowsley 2; Runcorn 1 Alvston 0; Spennymoor 1 Hyde 1. First division: Gretna 2 Workington 1; Harrogate Town 0 Lincoln United 3; Stocksbridge PS 0 Matlock Town 2; Whitley Bay 2 Farsley Celtic 1. League Cup: Third round replays: Netherfield 2 Lancaster 3; Worksop 5 Eastwood Town 2.

DR MARTENS LEAGUE: Premier division: Ashford 1 Gravesend and Northfleet 1; Cambridge City 1 Baldock 1; Chelmsford 1 Crawley 0; Dorchester 1 Newport AFC 3; Grasley 1 Atherstone 1; Halesowen 6 Gloucester 4; King's Lynn 2 Sudbury 1; Nuneaton 2 Burton 1. Midland division: Bilston 0 Stafford 1; Grantham 3 Raunds 0; Moor Green 3 Hinckley 1; RC Warwick 2 Evesham 1; Shepshed Dynamo 0 Sutton Coldfield 0; Stourbridge 1 Redditch 1. Southern division: Buckingham 0 Tonbridge Angels 1; Cinderford 2 Clevedon 3; Edgware Bellenders 1 Margate 1; Fisher Waterlooville 2; Newport IOW 2 Havant 3; Weston-super-Mare 0 Cirencester 0; Witney 4 Fleet 0.

ICIS LEAGUE: Premier division: Dulwich 2 Hendon 1; Grays 0 Carshalton 1; Kingstonian 3 Purfleet 2; Staines 1 St Albans 2. First division: Aldershot Town 1 Molesey 3; Barton 0 Walton and Hersham 1; Billericay 1 Chesham 2, Hampton 2 Abingdon Town 1; Maidenhead United 2 Marlow 3; Thame 1 Wokingham 1; Tooting and Mitcham 3 Canvey Island 1; Whyteleafe 1 Uxbridge 3; Worthing 1 Croydon 2. Second division: Barking 2 Bracknell 1; Hungerford 6 Egham 4.

FA CUP: Third qualifying round replays: Newcastle Town 2 Pridley 1; Bamber Bridge 2 Atherton 0.

HIGHLAND LEAGUE: Clachnacuddin 2 Wick Academy 1; Lossiemouth 0 Huntly 3.

WILKINSON SWORD LEAGUE CUP: Final: Glentoran 0 Crusaders 1.

PONTINS CENTRAL LEAGUE: Second division: Grimsby 2 Bradford 1.

COMBINED COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Bedfont 2 Corinthian-Casuals 3, Chipstead 0 Cranleigh 0; Farnham 0 Reading 1, Viking Sports 2 Cobham 1.

FA CARLSBERG VASE: Second qualifying round: Second replay: Witham 5 Marlows Blackstone 1.

FEDERATION BREWERY NORTHERN LEAGUE: First division: Chester-le-Street 1 Morpeth 2; Tow Law 4 Shildon 1, West Auckland 1 Bedlington 4.

JEWSON EASTERN COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Woodbridge 0 Diss 0; Wroxham 4 Wisbech 1.

JEWSON WESSEX LEAGUE: First division: Christchurch 4 Thatcham 1.

NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE: Premier division: Arnold 1 Armthorpe Welfare 0; Belper Town 3 Glasshoughton Welfare 2; North Ferriby 4 Thackley 1.

SCREWFIX DIRECT LEAGUE: Premier division: Bridgwater 2 Bideford 2; Elmore 0 Taunton 8; Torrington 4 Chard 3.

UHLSPORT UNITED COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Cogenhoe 3 Wootton 0; Desborough 3 Holbeach 1; Potton 2 Wellingborough 1.

UNIJET SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE: First division: Ringmer 1 Saltdean 2; Shoreham 2 Peacehaven and Telscombe 0; Wick 4 Mile Oak 1.

WELSH CUP: Second round replay: Bridgend 4 Haverfordwest 2, Ebbw Vale 2 Pontardawe 1.

SCHOOLS MATCHES: Boodle and Dunthorne Cup: Lancing 3 Charterhouse 0. English Schools Fuji Film Trophy: Second round: Bristol 12 Stroud 0; Cannock 2 Newcastle-under-Lyme 0.

Aberdeen fail to adjust their game for continental combat

BY RUSSELL KEMPSON

ABERDEEN'S Uefa Cup adventure is nearing its conclusion. After losing 2-0 to Brondby IF at Pittodrie on Tuesday night, in a second-round, first-leg tie, they appear to have little realistic hope of reversing the trend in Copenhagen in a fortnight's time. It is all over bar the eternal optimism of Roy Aitken, the Aberdeen manager.

As Aitken contemplated defeat, inflicted by goals late in each half, from Ebbe Sand and Bo Hansen, it was perhaps the post-match criticism of John Jensen, the Denmark and Brondby midfield player, that hurt most of all. Before the game, he had loudly predicted a Danish victory; after it, he was equally outspoken.

"I think we capitalised on the basic problems in Scottish football," Jensen, the former Arsenal player, said. "The game is played very quickly, and isn't that bad, but it just doesn't travel very well in Europe. At Arsenal, George Graham used to change our whole tactical approach for European ties, as you have to, but it seems to be something that Scottish sides cannot do."

Die-hard Aberdeen supporters would no doubt point to the positive aspects of their team's performance: how they dominated most of the second half, with an almost feverish intensity, and struck the woodwork twice; how Joe Miller and Dean Windass caught the eye with their direct running.

Overall, though, it was too predictable. "It went much as we thought it would," Jensen said. "I always felt we could win and the second goal was a bonus. It gives us that vital cushion for the return leg.

"It could be that, perhaps, European coaches are needed in Scottish football. You have to start with the youths. When I started playing, I was only five years old. Coaches in Denmark teach you tactics from that age. The main difference against Aberdeen was the passing."

It may sound a bit rich coming from a player who earned cult status at Highbury more for his crab-like meanderings and unerring dislike of goalscoringthan any creative genius. Yet Jensen, capped 70 times by Denmark, has winner's medals in the FA Cup, European Cup Winners' Cup and European championship finals.

He is eminently qualified to pass judgment, unpalatable though it may be to the partisans of Pittodrie. Brondby were streets ahead in everything they did and only in Jensen's closing comments did he veer from the truth. "The tie is not dead yet," he said. "Anything can happen." Dream on, Dons.

Forest takeover to be fought

THE first signs emerged yesterday that a section of the shareholders of Nottingham Forest will try to prevent the takeover of the FA Carling Premiership club (Richard Hobson writes).

Four bidders have shown an interest in buying Forest and one, Grant Bovey, head of the recently-formed Cruise Holdings, has already met the board of directors to submit his £30 million plan. The other three are understood to be a locally-based consortium of up to eight people, Phil Soar, a writer who also runs an exhibition centre in London, and a businessman from Indonesia. They will each outline their proposals to the directors before the club's annual meeting on October 31.

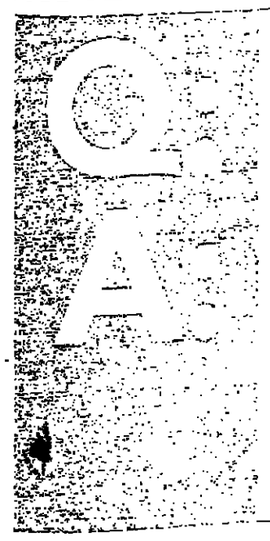
However, no takeover can be approved without a change to the constitution of the club which requires the support of 75 per cent of the 209 shareholders, each of whom owns a £1 stake in the club, at a specially convened meeting.

On announcing that a takeover was, in his opinion, the best way forward, Fred Reacher, the chairman, said that the club desperately needed an injection of capital. Last season Forest reached the quarter-finals of the UEFA Cup but, under pressure from the bank to reduce a £6 million overdraft, they now lie fourth from bottom of the Premiership.

The recently published annual review of football finance from Deloitte and Touche revealed that in the year ending May 1995, Forest made a loss of £3.315 million, had net liabilities of £4.716 million and £4.4 million in outstanding loans.

A straight majority of shareholders, including former player Larry Lloyd, appear to be behind the principle of a takeover. However, John Ellwood, another of the 209, believes he can gather enough support to block the move and will be canvassing for support at the game against Derby County on Saturday.

Ellwood wants to see the removal of Reacher and believes the club's problems stem from a failure to find a replacement for Stan Collymore, who was sold for a then British record fee of £8.5 million in July 1995. "We are not going to get out of this mess by changing the constitution," Ellwood said. "No one was worried about it when we were going well."



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GOLF

Montgomerie relishes role of Wentworth straight man

By John Hopkins, Golf Correspondent

THERE is a feeling of coming home when the Toyota World Match Play Championship begins at Wentworth in October. January may be spent in Singapore, February in Australia, March in Morocco and April in Augusta, but, by the tenth month of the year, when the deciduous trees are shedding their leaves and there are wisps of autumn fog in the morning air, it is time to be at Wentworth to watch the 12-man field in this admirable competition address the challenges of the West Course.

It is not just that a golf club in a place named Virginia Water in Surrey is about as English as could be, or that the course amply separates the chokers from the strokers, as Charles Price, the American golf writer, said all great courses should. It is these and more, including the fact that the PGA European Tour has its headquarters near the clubhouse, that Bernard Gallacher, the captain of the Europe Ryder Cup team last year, is the club professional and that the place reeks of golf history.

"We play here more than any other course and so, yes, there is a sense of homecoming," Colin Montgomerie said on the eve of an event he likes because he can stay at home while competing in it. "I play four rounds in the PGA and up to nine rounds here and it does favour me because I tend to hit the ball straight off the tee, but it is not my home course. That will always be Troon."

This year the European contingent totals two. Montgomerie and Ian Woosnam will play each other in the first round today. "That's a bit silly," Woosnam said. "I suppose it's good for TV in that it guarantees one person through to Friday, but I don't know. I am not sure about that."

On the other hand, there are six Americans, three fresh from winning the Dunhill Cup at St Andrews last week, all of whom have been kept apart. This, of course, is purely the luck of the draw. Mark O'Meara plays Nobuo Serizawa, of Japan, Phil Mickelson plays Vijay Singh and Steve Stricker plays Steve Elkington. If Stricker defeats Elkington, he will play Ernie Els, the defending champion, who has played six matches in this competition and won them all.

Watch out for Stricker, 29. At first glance, he may appear to be just another of those young American players who come along regularly and then never make that one extra stride to the summit. There are signs that Stricker may be an exception. Tom Watson has talked highly of him, he has twice been victorious and won more than £1 million in the United States this year, and, though he lost three of his five matches in the Presidents Cup, he won all five at St Andrews.

He does it with the help of his wife, Nicki, who has caddied for him for seven years, and a strong all-round game that is well suited to Wentworth. "I do most of the things fairly well," Stricker said. "I drive it a long way. I am in the top ten in driving statistics on the US Tour and third in putting, and I like to compete."

Montgomerie was partnered with Stricker in a tournament the week after the Masters this year. "He is very straight and very long and obviously, after his two victories in the US, he is full of confidence," Montgomerie said.

It is Stricker's first appearance in this event and, on Monday, he went into London to do some sightseeing with O'Meara and some friends. They went to look at Buckingham Palace and O'Meara bought an Orlando Magic basketball cap. Stricker said that he thought that this was something O'Meara could have bought back home.

Stricker is something of a dark horse. It may be a bit much to think that he can win from one of the strongest fields in recent years, but he has the game to spoil this very British occasion. What happened to him on Tuesday afternoon may add a bit of zip to his play today. That was when he and Nicki played the nine-hole course. Stricker was one over par, Nicki level par.

DRAW

08.15 and 12.30: (8) S Ellanglon (Aus) v S Stricker (US) Winner to play (1) E Els (SA)
08.30 and 12.45: I Woosnam (GB) v (5) C Montgomerie (GB) Winner to play (4) M Brooks (US)
08.45 and 13.00: (6) P Mickelson (US) v V Singh (Fiji) Winner to play (3) S Jones (US)
09.00 and 13.15: N Senzawa (Japan) v (7) M O'Meara (US). Winner to play (2) T Lehman (US)
Seeded positions in brackets

HUGH ROUTLEDGE



Paul Howarth, of Jacksons Chartered Accountants, chips to the 17th at The Tytherington yesterday

Seton's second wait rewarded

By Mel Webb

THE whole affair had heavy overtones of déjà vu. For the second time in as many years, the Seton Healthcare Group were out third, yesterday, in the North West regional final of *The Times* MeesPierson Corporate Golf Challenge. For the second year, they had to wait for an eternity to see if they had won. In 1995, they were beaten by the last team on the course; this time, they went one better.

Seton, a leading manufacturer of sport and healthcare products which has grown in the six years since it went public into a £270 million market capitalisation company, went through agonies as they waited, and watched the scoreboard, and waited, and waited. Surely, it was not going to happen to them again, was it?

As the wind and rain lashed the course at The Tytherington Club, near Macclesfield, only marginally less fiercely than it did in the same event last year, it was not. The four men representing Seton — Iain Cater, the chief executive of the company, Dieno George, the deputy chief executive, Alistaire Brown and Michael Bahbout, both clients — were put through the hoop, but this time their patience was rewarded.

In the end, the only team who could knock Seton off the perches upon which they had hesitantly started to climb were, yet again, the last four-ball on the course, Helsby Electrical and Building Services. It was not until late in their round that Helsby fell away slightly to finish second, two points behind Seton's winning total of 86 Stableford points.

"We felt for Helsby, because we knew just how they must have felt," George said. "We had been there — I'm just so grateful it didn't happen to us again. We're pretty excited about the win, and now we can't wait for the national final at La Manga."

Scoring was never going to go through the roof in such inhospitable conditions, and anything in excess of 80 points on this day was good scoring. Any winning quartet in this regional final series is going to have to rely on teamwork to get them to La Manga, but George was the first to admit that Seton owed much for their success to Brown.

A two-handicap member of Mere, where he was once an assistant to the teaching professional, Brown fought his way through the worst of the weather to record a remarkable 75, three over par. The 35 points that he picked up were the sturdy foundations upon which George, Cater and Bahbout built their score.

They recorded seven points on only one hole, but that was nothing of which to be ashamed on such a dreadful day for golf. Their big moment came on the 318-yard par-four 8th, where George hit a seven-iron to 15 feet and holed the putt for a net eagle and four points.

Cater, also with a seven-iron, finished 22 feet from the hole and lipped out with his first putt, then tapped in from zero range for a net birdie and three points. It was a moment to celebrate; but it was nothing, compared with the joy of victory that they experienced a couple of hours later.

RESULTS

86: Seton Healthcare Group plc 84: Helsby Electrical & Building Services. 82: Arthur Andersen 78: Frodsham Wooden Spoon Challenge; Lace Mawer; Sun Alliance (Personal Lines Division) 77: Jacksons Chartered Accountants. 76: Vernon Building Society; Plexus Cotton Ltd 75: JR Taylor Whitehead Ltd; Hodgsons 74: Willis Corroon Management (Isle of Man); SCC Ltd 73: Iceland Frozen plc. 72: Mace & Jones Grundy Kershaw 71: TNT Express Worldwide. 70: JBA (UK) Ltd; Singer & Friedlander (Isle of Man) Ltd; The Littlewoods Organisation plc; Paper Makers' Allied Trades Association 69: Paramount plc. 67: Glasson Group (Lancaster) 66: Skipton Building Society 64: Campbell Reith Hill 63: Manchester Publicity Association 58: Walker, Smith & Way 56: ODFDS Transport Ltd

SPORT IN BRIEF

McRae wins from front in San Remo

COLIN McRAE, from Scotland, has won the San Remo rally for the first time in his career. McRae, the former world champion, driving his Subaru Impreza 555, beat Carlos Sainz, of Spain, by 22sec in the penultimate event of the 1996 world rally championship. Sainz, in his Ford Escort Cosworth, narrowed the gap behind McRae by 10sec from the second stage on Tuesday, but was unable to catch him. McRae, 28, led throughout the three stages and completed the race in 4hr 26min 57sec. Bruno Thiry, of Belgium, also in a Ford Escort Cosworth, finished third.

Tommi Makinen, of Finland, who clinched the 1996 championship in Australia last month, was forced out in the opening stage on Monday when he crashed his Mitsubishi Lancer. The championship finishes with the Catalunya rally from November 3 to 6.

Davies hunts for more

GOLF: Laura Davies, of Great Britain, will be chasing a fourth Italian Open title in her final European appearance of the season, at Il Picciolo, in Sicily, today. Davies, the winner of seven titles this year, needs a top-ten finish to overtake Helen Alfredsson, of Sweden, who leads the European money-list by £97,804. Last year, Davies finished second to Annika Sorenstam, also of Sweden, on the money-lists on both sides of the Atlantic and she is well-placed to emulate Sorenstam, the US Open champion, this year. Davies is $420 behind Karrie Webb, of Australia, who leads the LPGA money-list with winnings of $827,903 (£535,000).

Cricket board backed

CRICKET: The National Cricket Association (NCA), which is responsible for youth and recreational cricket, has signalled its support for the new England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB), which comes into being on January 1. The decision by the NCA's executive committee was welcomed by Tim Lamb, soon to be the chief executive of the ECB, who said: "The NCA has demonstrated foresight and courage in overcoming a natural concern over change."

Leeds ignore Caspian

RUGBY LEAGUE: The Caspian group is likely to fail in its plan to move Leeds from Headingley to share Elland Road with Leeds United. The company, which took control of United during the summer, saw the rugby league club as part of a multisports package based around the football ground, which would also include ice hockey and basketball, but the idea angered both sets of supporters. Leeds are expected to announce new owners tomorrow.

England soldier on

SQUASH: England defeated New Zealand 2-1 in the last qualifying round of the women's world team championship in Petaling Jaya, Malaysia, but a lacklustre performance did not augur well for their prospects of retaining the title. Cassandra Jackman, the defeated individual finalist, and Linda Charman were both stretched to five games, while Suzanne Horner virtually conceded the dead, second-string rubber.

Hemp in demand

CRICKET: Warwickshire have made the first move to sign David Hemp, the England A batsman, after his decision to leave Glamorgan. Glamorgan are expected to approve Warwickshire's formal request to talk to Hemp, 25, when he becomes a free agent on November 1. Dermot Reeve, the former Warwickshire captain, has had further talks with Somerset about becoming their head of coaching.

SNOOKER

Parrott uses new cue to deadly effect

JOHN PARROTT, whose cue remains lost in the post, demonstrated that he has swiftly become accustomed to its replacement by beating Joe Johnson 5-4 in a high quality first-round match at the Grand Prix in Bournemouth yesterday (Phil Yates writes).

Despite having employed the substitute model for only three weeks, Parrott compiled breaks of 103, 60 and, under pressure in the deciding frame, 62. The precarious margin of victory was more a product of Johnson's stubborness than Parrott inadequacies.

Parrott, the 1991 world and United Kingdom champion and the tournament's No 4 seed, is relieved that the acclimatisation period with his new cue has been brief. "It hits the ball solidly and when I miss it is my fault," he said.

Tony Drago defeated Andrew Cairns, of Blackpool, 5-1. Drago constructed a 133 total clearance in the opening frame and was never seriously challenged.

FOR THE RECORD

BALLROOM DANCING

BRENTWOOD: International championships: Juvenile Latin: 1, D Jonsson and H Halldorsdottir (Ice); 2, U Caknis and D Pekc (Slovenia); 3, S Fredie-Pedersen and J Aunal (Den); 4, A Over and N Macioola (Eng); 5, A Forman and E Lyndon (Eng); 6, R Lebeda and L Trolanovskai (Russ). Junior Latin: 1, B Einarsson and B Ingvarsdottir (Ice); 2, M Gimaev and Y Pokrovskaia (Russ); 3, A Kashkovski and A Kislina (Ukr); 4, W Boyce and L Bellinger (Eng); 5, M Spina and Consuela Costa (It); 6, G Maco and G Peacock (US). Under-21 Latin: 1, M Krajcer and J Koselj (Slovenia); 2, A Dale and M Lindoe (Nor); 3, J Polmenia and J Jones (Aus); 4, C Bradbury and L McCann (Eng); 5, S Sysum and K Laigden (Eng); 6, D Bennett and R Coster (Eng). Senior Latin: 1, A Newman and G Newman (Eng); 2, C Cesarin and T Moretti (US); 3, R Sudell and M Sudell (Eng); 4, V Fannino and B Fannino (Fr); 5, S Madden and C Madden (Eng); 6, L Machado and J Almeida (Por). Rising Star professional Latin: 1, C Danza and S Danza (It); 2, M Lunn and J Baltzer (Eng); 3, A Pochaev and N Kochergina (Russ); 4, D Gabusi and C Tavalazzi (It); 5, L Fanni and L Fanni-Leonori (It); 6, I Nunokawa and C Nunokawa (Japan)

FENCING

BERG STEINFURT, Germany: Under-20 World Cup: Foil: 1, T Or (Isr); 2, T Frank (Ger), equal 3, F Reching (Ger) and O Ginnard (Bel); 5, S Johnson (GB)

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL): Buffalo 0 Tampa Bay 4. New Jersey 3 Montreal 2. Toronto 1 Chicago 3. Dallas 3 Detroit 1. Colorado 7 Edmonton 2. Los Angeles 3 Philadelphia 2

MOTOR RALLYING

SAN REMO RALLY: Final positions: 1 C McRae (GB, Subaru Impreza) 4hr 26min 57sec; 2 C Sainz (Sp, Ford Escort Cosworth) at 22sec; 3 B Thiry (Bel, Ford Escort Cosworth) at 2min 09sec; 4 K Eriksson (Swe, Subaru Impreza) at 2:44; 5 F Loix (Bel, Toyota Celica GT4) at 2:51; 6 F Cunico (It, Ford Escort Cosworth) at 3:44

RUGBY UNION

WELSH LEAGUE: Second division: Abertillery 0 Blackwood 24; Bonymaen 5 Llandovery 29, Cross Keys 79 Abercynon 0; Pontypool 73 Ystradgynlais 0; South Wales Police 27 Aberavon 16, Cardiff Institute 14 Maesteg 22.

CLUB MATCH: Oxford University 20 Bath XV 35

SRU UNDER-21 INTER-DISTRICT CHAMPIONSHIP: North and Mid Scotland 32 Glasgow 21; Scottish Exiles 24 Edinburgh 19 (both at Murrayfield)

UNDER-21 COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP: Staffordshire 5 North Midlands 37 (at Burton-on-Trent)

SCHOOLS MATCHES: Oundle 39 Harrow 0; Harrogate GS 0 Hymers College 24

SNOOKER

BOURNEMOUTH INTERNATIONAL CENTRE: Grand Prix: First round: K Doherty (Ire) bt W Brown (Eng) 5-1, A Robidoux (Can) bt P Davies (Wales) 5-1, T Drago (Malta) bt A Cairns (Eng) 5-1, N Pearce (Eng) bt D Finbow (Eng) 5-3, W Randle (Eng) bt R Lawler (Eng) 5-2; M Price (Eng) bt J Prince (Ire) 5-4

SQUASH

PETALING JAYA, Malaysia: Perrier women's world team championship: Third qualifying round: Pool A: Australia 3 United States 0, South Africa 2 Germany 1. Pool B: England 2 New Zealand 1 (England names first: C Jackman bt P Beams 7-9, 9-7, 9-1, 8-10, 9-2; S Horner lost to L Marsh 2-9, 2-9, 2-9; L Charmon bt S Cook 10-8, 9-1, 2-9, 6-9, 9-0; Holland 3, Egypt 0. Pool C: Canada 3 Ireland 0 (Canada names first: H Wallace bt A McArdle 9-0, 9-2, 9-3; M Jans bt L Fennegan 9-4, 5-9, 9-0, 6-9, 9-8; K Soucherreau bt O French 9-5, 9-5, 9-5), Finland 3 Malaysia 0. Pool D: Scotland 3 France 0 (Scotland names first: S Machie bt C Castets 4-9, 9-4, 9-5, 9-2; C Waddell bt I Stoehr 8-10, 9-3, 9-0, 10-8; W Maitland bt C Vecht 9-4, 9-0, 9-5). Hong Kong 2 Japan 1. Pool E: Brazil 3 Italy 0; Denmark 2 Spain 1

TABLE TENNIS

KAPOSVAR, Hungary: European Women's League. Hungary 4 England 1

TENNIS

OSTRAVA, Czech Republic: Men's tournament: First round: D Prinosil (Ger) bt R Krajicek (Hol) 6-4, 6-3; M Stich (Ger) bt S Stolle (Aus) 7-6, 6-2; M Damm (Cz) bt D van Scheppingen (Hol) 6-2, 6-4; G Ruseddu (GB) bt G Bastl (Switz) 6-4, 7-6. Second round: J Novak (Cz) bt B Ulrich (Cz) 6-4, 6-2; T Martin (US) bt C Carach (It) 6-4, 6-1

TOULOUSE: Men's tournament: First round: L Roux (Fr) bt A Gaudenzi (It) 6-2, 6-3; O Stanoytchev (Bul) bt A O'Brien (US) 6-2, 4-6, 7-6; J Bhngh (Holl) bt P Haarhuis (Holl) 4-6, 6-3, 6-3; M Ros (Chile) bt F Vitoux (Fr) 5-2, ret; T Guardiola (Fr) bt O Mutis (Fr) 6-1, 4-6, 6-4; M Rosset (Switz) bt J A Viloca (Sp) 6-2, 6-2; T Johansson (Swe) bt A Chesnokov (Russ) 6-4, 6-2.

TEL AVIV: Men's tournament: First round: A Costa (Sp) bt E Ran (Isr) 6-4, 6-2; F Mantilla (Sp) bt I Tiruyal (Sp) 6-3, 6-4; J Frana (Arg) bt G Blanco (Sp) 1-6, 7-5, 6-4; G Stafford (SA) bt D Nainkin (SA) 6-2, 7-6; S Draper (Aus) bt J-P Fleuran (Fr) 6-4, 6-4; R Fromberg (Aus) bt L Jonsson (Swe) 6-4, 1-6, 7-6; M Filippini (Uru) bt D Nestor (Can) 7-6, 4-6, 7-6

PEKING: Women's tournament: First round: Y Hosoki (Japan) bt R Hiraki (Japan) 6-4, 6-4; N Miyagi (Japan) bt Chen Jingjing (China) 6-2, 6-3, Wang Shiang (Taiwan) bt H Mochizuki (Japan) 6-4, 6-4; F Lubiani (It) bt N Vanlottum (Fr) 7-5, 6-1; Chen Li (China) bt T Kirizan (Slovenia) 6-4, 7-6. Second round: N Kijumita (Japan) bt Li Li (China) 6-1, 6-1; M Hendo (Japan) bt Park Sung-Hee (S Kor) 7-5, 6-0

ZURICH: Women's tournament: First round: J Wesner (Austria) bt N Tauziat (Fr) 0-6, 6-4, 6-3; M Hingis (Switz) bt N Sawamatsu (Japan) 6-0, 6-1; J Capriati (US) bt G Sabatini (Arg) 6-2, 6-4. Second round: S Farina (It) bt A Koumikova (Russ) 0-6, 7-5, 6-2; J Novotna (Cz) bt B Schett (Austria) 4-6, 6-4, 7-5

HONG KONG: Men's tournament: Red group: P Rafter (Aus) bt Y Kafelnikov (Russ) 6-4, 4-6, 6-4. Silver group: B Black (Zim) bt G Connell (Can) 6-3, 6-4. Gold group: J Bjorkman (Swe) bt N Godwin (SA) 6-2, 6-3

CARDIFF: Women's tournament (GB unless stated): First round: C Wood bt M Strandlund (Swe) 6-4, 6-2; S Smith bt S Pozzerc (Por) 6-3, 6-3; A Sidot (Fr) bt A Tordoff 6-2, 6-1; D Chladkova (Cz) bt O Lugina (Ukr) 6-0, 6-0; W Probst (Ger) bt R Kuhlkes (Ger) 6-4, 6-1; E Wagner (Ger) bt C Taylor 6-2, 6-3; E Martinezova (Cz) bt V Csurgo (Hun) 6-3, 4-6, 6-0; M Diaz-Oliva (Arg) bt M Javer 5-7, 6-2, 6-0; L Woodroffe bt E Jofs 6-2, 6-2; C Tornens (Sp) bt E Kulikovskaya (Russ) 6-4, 7-6

POOLS DIVIDENDS

LITTLEWOODS: Treble chance: 24pts £1 187 759, 23pts £4 510 50, 22pts £193 10, 21pts £34 90. Half-time results: 20pts max £65 95. Four draws: £10 95. Ten homes: £2 70. Five aways: £14 40

VERNONS: Treble chance: 24pts £57 967 05, 23pts £1 321 55, 22pts £170 80. Super shots: £32 35. Premier ten: £483 00

ZETTERS: Treble chance: 24pts £44 518 90, 23pts £186 40, 22pts £11 60, 21pts £1 30. First eight: 14pts £115 30, 13pts £19 20, 12pts £0 75p. Four aways: £2 00. Eight homes: £0 70p. Four draws: £8 20. Super seven: £834 40. Lucky numbers: 36, 21, 26, 29, 32, 14

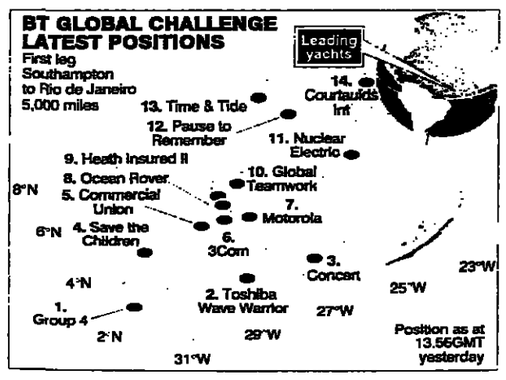
Take one phone number wherever you go.

Imagine a Personal Number that's yours for life. Wherever you go, your customers, colleagues and friends get you the first time on one number. Call inter.connect for details.



BT GLOBAL CHALLENGE LATEST POSITIONS

First leg
Southampton to Rio de Janeiro
5,000 miles



LATEST POSITIONS (with miles to Rio de Janeiro): 1, Group 4 (1,740); 2, Toshiba Wave Warrior (1,793); 3, Concert (1,842); 4, Save The Children (1,860); 5, Commercial Union (1,902); 6, 3Com (1,913); 7, Motorola (1,914); 8, Ocean Rover (1,945); 9, Heath Insured II (1,949); 10, Global Teamwork (1,986); 11, Nuclear Electric (2,048); 12, Pause To Remember (2,135); 13, Time and Tide (2,162); 14, Courtaulds Int (2,222)

SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

By Robert Sheehan, Bridge Correspondent

I made a poor job of catering for bad breaks on this rubber bridge hand. Try playing Six Hearts on a club lead before reading on.

Dealer North — Love all — Rubber Bridge

	♠Q ♥AKJ842 ♦42 ♣KJ83	
♠J876 ♥53 ♦K10976 ♣96	N W E S	♠K10432 ♥Q1076 ♦8 ♣542
	♠A95 ♥9 ♦AQJ53 ♣AQ107	

W	N	E	S
—	1 H	Pass	2 D
Pass	2 H	Pass	3 C
Pass	4 S	Pass	6 C
All Pass			

Contract: Six Clubs by South — Lead: Six of clubs

I was South. Two points about the bidding. It would be wrong to force on the South hand over One Heart. As I had two suits I wanted to show, starting with Two Diamonds gave more room. North showed good appreciation of his hand when he jumped to Four Spades over Three Clubs — that was clearly a cuebid agreeing clubs.

I won the trump lead in hand with the seven. It seemed best to establish dummy's hearts, so I played a heart to the ace and ruffed a heart with the club ace. Now, I was in a dilemma. If the hearts were dividing, I could handle a 4-1 club split by drawing trumps ending in dummy, but, if hearts were 4-2, I needed the trumps to be 3-2; I had to overtake a trump to get to dummy, and then ruff a heart high, and finally re-enter dummy with a spade ruff to draw the last trump. As trumps 4-1 was less likely than hearts 4-2, I took the second approach, which turned out to be the winning one.

Do you see how I could have catered for both possibilities? I should have cashed the ace and king of hearts at tricks two and three (if hearts are 5-1, I might still survive if diamonds lie favourably). Then, I ruff a third heart high and, when I find the bad news in that suit, I have to play for clubs 3-2. However, if, after the third-round heart ruff, the hearts are established, I can just draw trumps, making the contract even if the clubs are 4-1.

☐ Robert Sheehan writes on bridge Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

KEENE on CHESS

By Raymond Keene, Chess Correspondent

Computer title

The microcomputer world championship at Gunadarma University, Jakarta, Indonesia, finished yesterday with a victory by Shredder (programmed by Stefan Meyer-Kahlen, of Germany) scoring nine out of 11. Shredder pushed better-known programs, such as Fritz, down the field.

White: Fritz
Black: Shredder

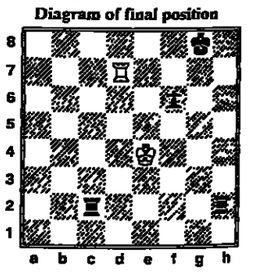
Fourteenth microcomputer world championship
Jakarta, October 1996

Sicilian Defence

1	e4	c5
2	Nf3	d6
3	d4	cxd4
4	Bb5+	Bd7
5	Bxd7+	Nxd7
6	Qxd4	Ngf6
7	Bg5	e6
8	Nc3	Be7
9	e5	dxe5
10	Nxe5	Nxe5
11	Qxe5	0-0
12	0-0	Bd6
13	Qe2	h6
14	Bh4	Be7
15	Rfd1	Qb6
16	Qb5	Qc6
17	Rd3	Rac8
18	Qxc6	Rxc6
19	Rad1	Rfc8
20	a4	a6
21	Bg3	Ba3
22	Nb5	axb5
23	axb5	Rxc2
24	bxa3	Nd5
25	h3	Rb2
26	a4	Ra2
27	Rd4	Ra8
28	Rxd5	exd5
29	Rxd5	R2xa4
30	Rd7	Rb4
31	Rxb7	Ra1+
32	Kh2	Rab1
33	Re7	Rxb5
34	Bd6	Rf1
35	Kg3	Rg5+
36	Kf3	Rf5+
37	Bf4	g5
38	Ke2	Rg1
39	Bg3	Rxg2
40	h4	gxh4
41	Bxh4	Rg4
42	Bg3	h5
43	Ke3	h4
44	Be5	f6
45	Bh2	Rg2
46	Bc7	Rfxf2
47	Rd7	Rc2
48	Ke4	h3
49	Bb8	h2
50	Bxh2	Rxh2

White resigns

Diagram of final position



Go championship

For devotees of the Oriental board game of Go, the 21st Meijin title match between Cho and Takemiya is in progress in various cities in Japan. Cho leads 3-1 in a best-of-seven match. For up-to-date information, including game moves, you can access the Internet on the following site:

http://www.asahi.com/paper/igo/indexe.html

If you have any difficulty locating the site, simply conduct a search for the word "Meijin".

Also on the Internet, if you require information and links concerning other Oriental board games and mind sports, such as Shogi, the Japanese version of chess, a good general information point is the British Go Association site:

http://www.eng.ox.ac.uk/people/Harry.Fearnley/go/main.html

☐ Raymond Keene writes on chess Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

FACER
a. A type of falcon
b. A bust
c. A bully

GAYAL
a. A flag
b. An ox
c. A mizzen sail

GROGRAM
a. The large gramme
b. A fabric
c. A rum punch

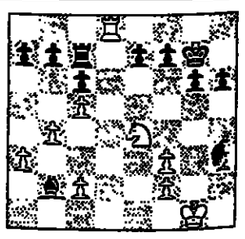
FOWAGE
a. Assault and battery
b. The cider vintage
c. A tax

Answers on page 50

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene

White to play. This position is from the game Peresipkin — Tsheshkov, Soviet Union, 1976. This endgame looks balanced, but White now spotted an unusual weakness in the black position which enabled him to win immediately. How?



Solution on page 50

هكذا من الأصل

هكذا من الأصل

RACING

Jockeys force meeting to be abandoned

BY DICK HINDER

JOCKEYS refused to ride after just one race of the Haydock Park meeting yesterday, causing the abandonment of the remainder of the card. The 21 jockeys involved in the Sycamore Nursery presented a united front and refused to take part.

They considered the course was unsafe – even though the stewards had given the go-ahead for racing to continue. The jockeys involved, including the reigning champion, Frankie Dettori, and champion-elect, Pat Eddery, face serious censure.

After riding in the first race, Walter Swinburn, who finished second on Outflanker, described the ground as "atrocious", while Dettori said: "I don't feel it's safe and all my colleagues agree with me."

One of the main concerns was slippery ground at the bend coming into the straight. The show of strength angered many racegoers, trainers and owners. The local stewards will submit a report on the affair to the Jockey Club.

Dettori, Swinburn, Michael and Richard Hills and several other jockeys inspected the track, in company with the stewards, after the first race. The riders were convinced that it could have resulted in an accident but the stewards were satisfied that it was safe.

Bill Nunneley, the stewards' secretary, said: "I have never known anything like this before and it's a shame that it has happened. The stewards were happy to allow racing to go ahead, but were going to look at things again after the second race had been run. However, the majority of riders refused to go out for the second race and there was nothing more we could do about it."

Arabian Story for royal celebration

NEWMARKET
CHANNEL 4



TODAY'S RACES ON TELEVISION

2.35: Arabian Story can give the Queen her 600th winner. The progressive grey should resume winning ways after a below-par effort at Ascot. His stablemate, Shaft Of Light, returns after a lengthy absence but should ensure a sound pace, which will enable Arabian Story to pounce late. Dear Life, winner of his last two starts, is in fine heart, while Polydamas ran his best race when second to Shadow Leader six days ago.

3.10: The booking of Frankie Dettori for **Daring Flight** catches the eye and can complete a quick double for Lord Huntingdon. The Danzig colt appeared not to like the dead ground at Bath last time but looks an each-way proposition judged on his good fourth to Tycoon Todd at York. Amyas won with plenty in hand at York but the nursery was slowly run, which may make the form unreliable. Sharp Hat and Burlington House look fairly treated.

3.40: Lucayan Prince is the form choice judged on his victory in the Jersey Stakes and runner-up spot in the July Cup, but he is a tricky ride. With other hopefuls such as My Branch, Thrilling Day and Bishop Of Cashel also best when held up, this race may not be run to suit, especially as he is drawn on the wide outside. **Bishop Of Cashel** was slightly disappointing at Longchamp but he holds solid claims on his second to Mark Of Esteem at Goodwood and subsequent victory at Doncaster.

4.15: This race looks ripe for an upset as most of the horses are out of form or possess long losing runs. No Cliches has decent form but is proving expensive to follow, having been runner-up on his last three starts. **Serendipity** has hardly been running with distinction but has been taking on better opposition and he is a hopeful choice.

REDCAR
CHANNEL 4

2.55: Tomba should confirm recent Salisbury form when beating Speedball and Magical Times. Richard Hannon has an outstanding record in this race and he relies on Pelham from four entries. He may not have stayed seven furlongs at Goodwood last time and a reproduction of his previous effort when carrying top weight in a Kempton nursery would take him close. Proud Native has contested group two events on his last three starts and will appreciate this easier company.

Nigrasine is arguably the form choice judged on his second to Lima at Pontefract last month, but preference is for **Much Commended**. Geoff Wragg's filly has only raced once, but the form of her debut success at Nottingham has worked out brilliantly, with the runner-up and fifth winning subsequently.

3.25: Spanish Verdict may be a nine-year-old but he is as good as ever judged on his second here nine days ago. The step back to a mile should be in his favour. Densben, Murray's Mazda and Quilling are all in good form but arguably better over seven furlongs. Antarctic Storm may be a bigger danger.

RICHARD EVANS

NEWMARKET

THUNDERER

1.30 Magellan	3.10 HEART THROB (nap)
2.00 Marsh Marigold	3.40 Bishop Of Cashel
2.35 Dear Life	4.15 Hardy Dancer
	4.50 City Hall

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 3.40 LUCAYAN PRINCE.

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 3.40 Lucayan Prince. 4.50 CATCHABLE (nap).

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM — TOTE JACKPOT MEETING
DRAW: NO ADVANTAGE — SIS

1.30 NGK SPARK PLUGS CONDITIONS STAKES
(£8,938: 1m 2f) (9 runners)

101	db	00-5042	QUEBURY 22 (F,G,S) (Godolphin) S bin Suroor 5-9-12	L Dettori	95
102	(7)	6-44133	FLORD 134 (CD,F,G,S) (H de Walden) H Cecil 3-9-5	M Roberts	85
103	(4)	653342	DESERT SHOT 26 (V,C,D,F,G) (M Al Maktoum) M Stoute 6-9-0	R Cochrane	(6)
104	(3)	123231	MAGELLAN 23 (D,F,G) (M Obaida) C Brittain 3-9-0	B Doyle	93
105	(2)	130430	PRINCE OF MY HEART 12 (G) (G Hicks) B Hills 3-9-0	M Hills	94
106	(7)	2-3100	MUSICK HOUSE 120 (S) (R Sangster) P Chapple-Hyam 3-8-12	W R Swinburn	78
107	(5)	1-4	BRIGHT WATER 190 (BF,F) (H Abdulla) H Cecil 3-8-9	Pat Eddery	80
108	(6)	21	SHEHAB 124 (D,F) (J Whelan) P Hedger 3-8-3	R McGhin	88
109	(9)	1-	WAHIBA SANDS 349 (F) (J Dunlop) J Dunlop 3-8-9	T Quinn	79

BETTING: 5-2 Flord, 3-1 Overbury, 100-30 Desert Shot, 8-1 Magellan, Bright Water, 10-1 others.

1995: BAL HARBOUR 4-9-0 Pat Eddery (5-2) H Cecil 9 ran

2.00 EQUITY FINANCIAL COLLECTIONS SELLING STAKES
(2-Y-O: £5,517: 7f) (27 runners)

201	(16)	153030	SUMMERVILLE WOOD 6 (BF) (Miss L Lace) P Mooney 9-2	P McCabe (3)	85
202	(17)	330006	ARGONADO 13 (A Pye-Jeary) R Johnson Houghton 8-11	S Sanders	98
203	(12)	60060	BATTLE GROUND 29 (R Callaghan) M Callaghan 8-11	L Dettori	86
204	(19)	0030	CHAMPAGNE TOAST 35 (Boardroom Syndi) R Hannon 8-11	M Hills	89
205	(14)	00	DOUBLE-E-A-B-A 16 (Camelot Racing) C Allen 8-11	Martin Dwyer (5)	74
206	(18)	344660	GRESATRE 21 (E Leibenstein) C Dwyer 8-11	Jo Hannam (7)	82
207	(15)	00	ISLAND PRINCE 14 (J Lesoan) N Callaghan 8-11	S Whitworth	80
208	(15)	425621	MARSH MARIGOLD 12 (S) (Ladysmead Racing) M Meade 8-11	D Sweeney (7)	95
209	(2)	0004	PADDY HURRY 63 (Gallagher Motorcycles) N Callaghan 8-11	R Cochrane	–
210	(1)	0	PRINCE JORDAN 9 (E Carter) I Campbell 8-11	G Faulkner (5)	–
211	(10)	414300	PRINCESS OF HEARTS 9 (B,D,F) (A Best) B Meehan 8-11	B Doyle	92
212	(75)	0	SAM'S VER MAN 20 (Miss L Wall) S Williams 8-11	Darren Williams (7)	–
213	(3)	56	SERETSE'S NEPHEW 15 (J Lovell) S Williams 8-11	–	82
214	(5)	00	SHEFFIELD SHARK 15 (V) (C Wright) D Arbuthnot 8-11	T Quinn	72
215	(24)		SWINYFORD CHARMER (Quattro Holdings) J Bottomley 8-11	J Lowe	–
216	(21)	004616	VICTORIA'S DREAM 59 (S) (A Tuckerman) M Channon 8-11	–	74
217	(20)	000	WARRINO 15 (Mrs G Rowland-Clark) M Channon 8-11	–	79
218	(6)	044	WATERVILLE BOY 13 (J Horgan) R Hannon 8-11	R Hughes	87
219	(27)	0	WITNEY-LA-ROCHE 13 (E Houghton) J Moore 8-11	N Adams	–
220	(22)		ZORRO (G Goggs) R Flower 8-11	S Drowne	–
221	(7)	640	DEBORAH 21 (Highclere Racing) G Lewis 8-6	Pat Eddery	79
222	(4)	0	DIAMONDS ARE 12 (Mrs J Purdy) D Thom 8-6	–	–
223	(13)	36500	JILLY WOO 13 (B) (Mrs J Wothersoon) D Elsworth 8-6	–	89
224	(9)	00	RACING CARR 53 (A Carr) T Naughton 8-6	–	–
225	(26)	222202	RIVER OF FORTUNE 9 (BBA Fortune In Mind) M Tompkins 8-6	R Mullen (7)	(6)
226	(11)	6	RIVERSIDE GIRL 8 (J Moore) J Moore 8-6	P P Murphy (5)	–
227	(23)	030050	RUN FOR US 12 (Cedar Lodge) C Dwyer 8-6	Jo Hannam (7)	81

BETTING: 6-1 River Of Fortune, 7-1 Marsh Marigold, 8-1 Abciscardo, 10-1 Victoria's Dream, 12-1 Waterville Boy, Princess Of Hearts, 14-1 others.

1995: DOMETTES 8-6 Dane O'Neill (16-1) R Hannon 27 ran

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Runs	%
H Cecil	68	289	23.5
R Flower	3	13	23.1
S bin Suroor	7	35	19.4
D Loder	22	116	19.0
P Cole	29	215	13.5

JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
Pat Eddery	121	546	22.2
L Dettori	78	545	14.3
W R Swinburn	54	378	14.3
M Hills	38	362	10.8
M Roberts	38	370	10.5

GUIDE TO OUR RACECARD

103 (14) 0-0432 GOOD TIMES 74 (CD,BF,F,G,S) (Mrs J Ramsden) B Hills 3-10-0 — G Wee (4) — 88

Racecard number. Draw in brackets. Six figure form (F — fell, P — pulled up, U — unseated rider, B — brought down, S — slipped up, R — refused, O — straightened). Horse's name. Days since last outing. J if jumps. T if hcp. (F — Fillies' V — visor, H — hood, E — Eyeshield, C — course winner, D — distance winner, CD — course and distance winner, BF — beaten favourite in latest race). Going on which horse has won (F — firm, good to firm, Gs — good to soft, S — soft, good to soft, Hy — heavy). Owner. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider's claim. Jockey's name. The Times Private Handicapper's rating.

2.35 HUNTER PRICE PARTNERSHIP RATED HANDICAP
(£7,995: 1m 4f) (11 runners)

301	(10)	201600	SON OF SHARP SHOT 18 (D,F,G,S) (Windflower) J Dunlop 8-9-7	Pat Eddery	90
302	(1)	510212-0	ZARALASKA 18 (D,G) (Fireside Girls) L Cumani 5-9-0	L Dettori	88
303	(11)	216110	ARABIAN STORY 18 (D,F) (The Queen) Lord Huntingdon 3-8-12	W R Swinburn	95
304	(8)	210011	DEAR LIFE 16 (CD,F,G) (The Maiden Men) J Dunlop 3-8-11	Martin Dwyer (5)	90
305	(3)	053106	MYSTIC HILL 40 (D,F,S) (R Ansell) G Harwood 5-8-10	A Clark	90
306	(4)	002115	WILLIE CONQUER 18 (D,F,G) (P Tochi) R Akehurst 4-8-7	S Sanders	94
307	(7)	325620	ROMBOS 18 (C,S) (C Chakerian) P Cole 4-8-7	T Quinn	(5)
308	(5)	10-4202	POLYDAMAS 6 (V,SF,F) (B Christodoulou) M Stoute 4-8-7	R Cochrane	94
309	(6)	111223-	SHAFT OF LIGHT 420 (D,F,G) (The Queen) Lord Huntingdon 4-8-7	M Roberts	91
310	(9)	0010S0	AT LIBERTY 18 (F,D) (S Asaam) K Heaton 3-8-7	M Hills	92
311	(2)	215050	THREE HILLS 26 (G) (H Abdulla) B Hills 3-8-0	D Biggs	83

BETTING: 5-2 Dear Life, 4-1 Willie Conquer, 5-1 Arabian Story, 7-1 Son Of Sharp Shot, 8-1 Romboss, 10-1 Polydamas, 12-1 others.

1995: NAKED WELCOME 3-8-9 J Reid (10-1) M Fetherston-Godley 10 ran

FORM FOCUS

ARABIAN STORY beat Quakers Feast 2½l in 11-runner handicap at York (1m 4f, good) on penultimate start with DEAR LIFE (2lb better off) further 2¼l 3rd.

WILLIE CONQUER 3¼l 5th of 20 to Better Offer in handicap at Ascot (1m 4f, good) with ROMBOS 7¼l 8th, AT LIBERTY 7½l 9th ARABIAN STORY (1lb worse off) 16l 14th, SON OF SHARP SHOT (4lb better off) 17¼l 15th, POLYDAMAS (2lb better off) 18l 16th and ZARALASKA (1lb better off) 19l 17th.

DEAR LIFE beat Fitzwilliam 1¼l 4th of 5 in 2-runner race at Newmarket (1m 4f, good), ROMBOS 3¼l 3rd of 12 to Decker in handicap at Haydock (1m 4f, good to firm) on penultimate start. MYSTIC HILL (1lb better off) 15¼l 5th.

POLYDAMAS 2¼l 2nd of 15 to Shadow Leader in handicap at Ascot (1m 4f, good), SHAFT OF LIGHT about 11¼l 2nd of 5 to Sweet Hollywood at York last year (1m 4f, good to firm).

Selection: ROMBOS

3.10 BIRDCAGE NURSERY HANDICAP
(2-Y-O: £6,992: 6f) (18 runners)

401	(1)	0431	CRYHAVOC 36 (D,F) (A Succession) J Arnold 9-7	S Sanders	(6)
402	(12)	156143	BURLINGTON HOUSE 12 (D,G) (P Cole) P Cole 9-6	G Faulkner (5)	98
403	(9)	61350	STONE FLOWER 36 (F) (P Sangster) P Chapple-Hyam 9-6	W R Swinburn	92
404	(7)	5611	AMYAS 8 (D,F,G) (Mrs J Cornett) B Hills 9-5 (7ex)	M Hills	97
405	(6)	020112	SHARP HAT 12 (D,BF,F,G) (J Dare) R Hannon 9-5	Pat Eddery	97
406	(15)	440	DARING FLIGHT 17 (H de Walden) Lord Huntingdon 9-4	L Dettori	97
407	(16)	21	HEART THROB 13 (G) (C Haggas) M Haggas 9-2	R Hughes	88
408	(14)	501500	LAMORNA 17 (D,F,G) (R Prendergast) P Cheese 9-1	T Quinn	93
409	(8)	05203	FEEL A LINE 48 (J Cullen) B Meehan 8-13	S Dawes	93
410	(3)	4305	RAINBOW RAIN 26 (M Al Maktoum) M Johnston 8-13	M Roberts	94
411	(14)	600	SALTIMBANCO 13 (J Smith) I Balding 8-11	R Cochrane	89
412	(4)	033232	PETITE DANSEUSE 13 (BF,F,G) (Sandringham Stables) C Dwyer 8-11	Jo Hannam (7)	98
413	(2)	5040	BROUGHTONS ERROR 54 (Broughton Insulators) M Munson 9-5	M Birch (5)	95
414	(17)	000432	STYLE DANCER 8 (Mrs C Hodgetts) R Whitaker 8-5	A Clark	98
415	(5)	410624	AYBEEGIRL 22 (F) (S Hudson) Mrs J Cecil 8-2	Martin Dwyer (5)	95
416	(10)	603	RETURN OF AIMIN 38 (J Cullen) J Bethell 8-1	S Dawes	85
417	(18)	65005	PUZZLEMENT 28 (Mrs C Brittain) C Brittain 8-1	Declan O'Shea	96
418	(13)	000	DAYRELLA 13 (Dukeston Equine) W Muir 7-13	P Doe (7)	91

BETTING: 3-1 Amyas, 6-1 Storm Hat, 8-1 Burlington House, 10-1 Style Dancer, 12-1 Cryhavoc, 14-1 Feel A Line, 16-1 others.

1995: LUNAR MIST 8-7 R Havlin (4-1) M Meade 18 ran

FORM FOCUS

CRYHAVOC beat Test the Water 1l in 15-runner maiden at Epsom (6f, good to firm), STONE FLOWER 6l 5th of 6 to Sambuc in conditions race at Chester (6f, good to soft) on penultimate start. AMYAS beat STYLE DANCER (7lb better off) 2l in 12-runner nursery at York (6f, good). SHARP HAT 1¼l 2nd of 16 to Serenity in 16-runner nursery at Newmarket (6f, good to firm) with BURLINGTON HOUSE (2lb better off) 1l 3rd and LAMORNA (3lb better off) 15l 16th.

DARING FLIGHT about 3l 4th of 16 to TYCOON TODD in maiden at York (6f, good) on penultimate start with STYLE DANCER (1lb better off) 1¾l 11th. HEART THROB best Hangover Square neck in 10-runner maiden at Lingfield (5f, good) SALTIMBANCO 5l 3rd of 12 to Wind Cheetah in maiden at Lingfield (6f, good). PETITE DANSEUSE 2l 2nd of 18 to Commander Jones in claimer at Lingfield (6f, good).

Selection: SHARP HAT

3.40 CHALLENGE STAKES
(Group II: £35,431: 7f) (8 runners)

501	(6)	1-21244	CHARNWOOD FOREST 19 (CD,F) (Godolphin) S bin Suroor 4-9-4	L Dettori	97
502	(5)	120110	DARING DESTINY 19 (C,D,F,G,S) (Mrs A Haigh) P Burgoyne 5-9-1	D Urbano	93
503	(2)	4-02214	BISHOP OF CASHEL 11 (D,F,S) (Chevelers Farm) J Fanshawe 4-9-2	W R Swinburn	98
504	(4)	400115	TROON 29 (F,G,S) (Sun Dial Clocks) R Hannon (Ire) 5-9-0	Manuel Santos	–
505	(1)	3212S2	LUCAYAN PRINCE 19 (B,BF,C,D,F) (Lucayan Stud) D Loder 3-8-12	R Hughes	(6)
506	(6)	101610	POLAR PRINCE 21 (CD,F,G) (Mrs C Stevenson) M Jarvis 3-8-12	R Cochrane	91
507	(7)	430014	MY BRANCH 21 (D,BF,F,G) (W Sarti) R Hutt 3-8-9	M Hills	95
508	(3)	106103	THRILLING DAY 21 (CD,F,G) (Bloemsbury Stud) N Graham 3-8-9	T Quinn	95

BETTING: 7-4 Charnwood Forest, 9-2 Lucayan Prince, 5-1 Bishop Of Cashel, 7-1 Thrilling Day, 10-1 My Branch, 12-1 Daring Destiny, 14-1 others.

1995: HARAYIR 3-8-12 W Carson (13-8 fav) W Hern 8 ran

FORM FOCUS

CHARNWOOD FOREST 3rd 4th of 7 to Mark of Esteem in group I Queen Elizabeth II Stakes at Ascot (1m, good to firm), BISHOP OF CASHEL 6l 4th of 10 to Alhaarth in group II Prix du Rond-Point at Longchamp (1m, good to soft), TROON about 3l 5th of 12 to Humbert's Landing in listed race at York (1m, good), LUCAYAN PRINCE short-head 2nd of 12 to Definitely in group II Royal Duchess Stakes (6f, good to firm) with DARING DESTINY 5½l 3rd, THRILLING DAY 6¼l 3rd of 9 to Tagula in group III Supreme Stakes at Goodwood (7f, good to firm) with MY BRANCH (4lb worse off) 1¾l 4th and POLAR PRINCE (3lb worse off) 12¾l 9th.

Selection: CHARNWOOD FOREST (nap)

4.15 MILCARS LEASING HANDICAP
(£3,840: 1m) (10 runners)

601	(7)	600300	HARDY DANCER 26 (D,F) (P Ingram) G L Moore 4-10-0	S Whitworth	51
602	(5)	000050	SERENDIPITY 18 (F) (J Dunlop) J Dunlop 3-9-8	T Quinn	97
603	(4)	040000	ERTLON 18 (D,F,G) (C Bonham) C Brittain 6-9-2	S Drowne	98
604	(1)	046000	TOULOURS RIVIERA 5 (CD,F,G) (J Furlong) J Pearce 6-9-1	N Day	95
605	(2)	422604	BLATANT OUTBURST 15 (D) (Mrs J Sievers) S Sievers 6-9-1	L Dettori	98
606	(6)	006222	NO CLICHES 10 (B,D,BF,F) (M Watt) S Lewis 3-8-13	Pat Eddery	92
607	(7)	506264	CHARLIE CHANG 69 (D,G) (J Horgan) R Hannon 3-8-12	R Hughes	90
608	(3)	550560	GOLDEN TOUCH 26 (C,D,F,G) (Mrs R La Coohey) D Cosgrove 4-9-4	S Sanders	91
609	(8)	060000	DEEVEE 15 (CD,F,G,S) (D Turner) C Cyzer 7-7-10	J Lowe	(5)
610	(10)	600000	SALTARDO 6 (D,G) (Mrs Sarah Hanbury) Pat Mitchell 5-7-12	Martin Dwyer (5)	55

BETTING: 5-2 Mr Connolly, 9-2 Eritton, 5-1 Serendipity, 7-1 Charlie Chang, Blatant Outburst, 8-1 Toulours Riviera, 10-1 others.

1995: TARAWA 3-9-10 Pat Eddery (13-8) N Callaghan 20 ran

FORM FOCUS

HARDY DANCER 15l 10th of 17 to Game Plan in handicap at Newbury (1m 2f, good to firm), SERENDIPITY 4¼l 5th of 17 to Cotton Fox in handicap at Doncaster (1m 2f, 60yd good to firm) on penultimate start.

ERTLON 11l 7th of 25 to Amyas (4lb worse off) in handicap at Ascot (1m, good) on SERENDIPITY (1lb better off) 2¾l 2nd.

TOULOURS RIVIERA 4l 7th of 24 to High Premium in handicap at Ascot (1m, good), BLATANT OUTBURST 3¼l 4th of 12 to Jalaze in maiden at Brighton (1m, good), NO CLICHES neck 2nd of 12 to Mais Ruby in handicap at Pontefract (1m, good), CHARLIE CHANG 10l 4th of 7 to Rainbow Tea in claimer at Haydock (1m 2f, 120yd, good to firm).

Selection: SERENDIPITY

4.50 EUROPEAN BREEDERS FUND CHESTERTON MAIDEN STAKES
(2-Y-O: £7,281: 1m) (17 runners)

1	(11)	6	CATCHARLE 16 (H de Walden) H Cecil 9-0	Pat Eddery	(5)
2	(3)		CITY HALL (Lord Huntingdon) P Chapple-Hyam 9-0	W R Swinburn	–
3	(5)	3	DAVOSKI 82 (R Ogden) B Hills 9-0	M Hills	96
4	(15)	0	FANTAIL 14 (Lady Nelson) M Tompkins 9-0	R Mullen (7)	–
5	(12)		GADROON (Lord Scarsdale) P Haslam 9-0	R Hughes	–
6	(8)		GALIBIS (Interglobal Racing Services) P Kelleway 9-0	T Quinn	–
7	(3)		HIGHLY PRIZED (J Salter) I Balding 9-0	L Dettori	–
8	(7)	0	JOLI'S PRINCE 28 (Four Score Racing) C Murray 9-0	P Bloomfield	78
9	(16)		NATURAL EIGHT (Mrs M Sue) B Hills 9-0	A Clark	–
10	(9)	0	OAKEN WOOD 29 (Gallagher Materials) N Callaghan 9-0	S Whitworth	–
11	(4)	5	REAL ESTATE 117 (N Akehurst) C Wall 9-0	S Sanders	–
12	(8)		REGATT (A Al Maktoum) M Jarvis 9-0	R Cochrane	–
13	(14)		ROYAL CRUSADE (Highclere Racing) W Haggas 9-0	B Doyle	–
14	(3)		TIMOTHY GEORGE (T Waddington) I Balding 9-0	S Drowne	–
15	(10)		ALIFANDAMGO (M Rees) A Stewart 8-9	M Roberts	–
16	(5)		RINCA (P Cunningham) J Pearce 8-9	N Day	–
17	(12)		VALAGALORE (Mrs A Bourne) B Hills 8-9	R Street	–

BETTING: 3-1 Davoski, 7-2 Catcharle, 8-1 City Hall, 10-1 Natural Eight, Highly Prized, 12-1 Gallibis, 14-1 others.

1995: SILVER DOME 9-0 Pat Eddery (4-5 fav) H Cecil 14 ran

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Newmarket: 2.00 Sheffield Shark, Jilly Woo, Princess Of Hearts. 2.35 Polydamas. Redcar: 1.40 Hurpil Times, Rake Hey. 2.55 Double-J. 4.25 Needwood Epic. Taunton: 1.50 Peyton Jones. 2.25 Colin's Pride, Merlins Wish, Mylordmayor.

REDCAR

THUNDERER

1.40 Pietro Bembo	3.25 Cee-Jay-Ay
2.10 Batoutofthebiue	3.55 Meshhed
2.55 Blane Water	4.25 Campaspe
	5.00 Sing With The Band

Our Newmarket Correspondent:
2.55 Much Commended.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM (FIRM IN PLACES) — SIS
DRAW: 5F–1M, HIGH NUMBERS BEST

1.40 CUB HUNTERS RATING RELATED MAIDEN STAKES
(2-Y-O: £3,196: 1m) (9 runners)

1	(6)	43065	HURGILL TIMES 17 (V) (The Hurgill Lodge Pons) J Watts 9-0	J Carroll	92
2	(7)	650	PIETRO BEMBO 13 (C Houghton) M Prescott 9-0	G Duffield	88
3	(3)	0500	RAKE HEY 46 (B) (Lord Leverhulme) R Johnson Houghton 9-0	A McGlone	86
4	(5)	0060	RISING GLORY 8 (J Lamminman) Miss J Craze 9-0	M Connorton	–
5	(8)	203020	SELECT STAR 21 (Select 96 Partnership) A Jarvis 9-0	W Ryan	98
6	(6)	000	SHAKEN UP 66 (Mrs S Thomson Jones) Mrs D Haine 9-0	J Fortune	94
7	(1)	5653	EPONINE 19 (R Dilley) M Channon 8-11	R Perham	(6)
8	(9)	50060	MAREMMA 9 (E Ivanica) E Ivanica 8-11	Kim Tinkler	76
9	(2)	330	SEVA 31 (Cuadra Africa) D Loder 8-11	D R McCabe	90

BETTING: 5-2 Eponine, 7-2 Pietro Bembo, 5-1 Hurgill Times, 6-1 Select Star, 8-1 Seva, 10-1 Shaken Up, 14-1 Rake Hey, 16-1 Maremma, 25-1 Rising Glory.

1995: QUALITY 9-0 J Carroll (11-2) W O'Gorman 12 ran

2.10 LESLIE PETCH MEMORIAL HANDICAP
(£4,133: 1m 6f 19yd) (5 runners)

1	(1)	302060	DEANO'S BEENO 26 (F) (P Dean) M Johnston 4-9-10	D McKeown	98
2	(2)	052510	UNCLE DOUG 27 (F,S) (D Saul) Mrs M Reveley 5-9-5	A Culhane	92
3	(5)	342242	TOTEM DANCER 9 (Diamond Racing Ltd) J Eyre 3-8-13	R Lappin	85
4	(3)	434011	BATOUTOFTHEBLUE 28 (D,S) (Dr C Emmerson) W Haigh 3-8-5	D R McCabe	(6)
5	(4)	000005	TEEN JAY 17 (S) (Gemini Associates) B Llewellyn 5-7-13	T Williams	98

BETTING: 2-1 Uncle Doug, 9-4 Totem Dancer, 5-2 Batoutofthebiue, 5-1 Deano's Beeno, 14-1 Teen Jay

1995: TOP LADY 3-9-5 L Dettori (9-4) M Stoute 4 ran

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Runs	%
P Walwyn	4	9	44.4
M Prescott	15	37	40.5
D Loder	9	24	37.5
R Hannon	11	34	32.4
B Meehan	3	10	30.0
J Gosden	16	61	26.2
J Dunlop	12	51	23.5
M Stoute	7	30	23.3

JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
W Ryan	17	84	20.2
G Hind	11	68	16.2
G Duffield	17	106	16.0
G Carter	11	70	15.7
K Fallon	23	154	14.9
R Hills	11	76	14.5
D Harrison	7	58	12.1

2.55 REDCAR TWO-YEAR-OLD TROPHY
(2-Y-O: £57,418: 6f) (26 runners)

1	(22)	1	JHAZI 29 (F) (A Bin Hab) D Loder 9-0	D R McCabe	72
2	(21)	5556	OUT OF SIGHT 42 (D Allen) B Mcmahon 8-12	N Connorton	76
3	(24)	6	TRULY PARCHED 18 (W Armitage) P Chapple-Hyam 8-10	R Havlin	80
4	(4)	023325	FOOT BATTALION 7 (G) (A Hill) R Hollinshead 8-7	F Lynch	78
5	(2)	110480	OSOMENTAL 28 (B,F,G) (H O'Donnell) D Haydn Jones 8-7	L Charnock	87
6	(5)	111402	PROUD NATIVE 28 (D,F,G) (L Freer) A Jarvis 8-7	W Ryan	98
7	(15)	312	SPEEDBALL 15 (D,BF,F) (J Smith) I Balding 8-7	J Fortune	89
8	(1)	63121	TOMBA 15 (D,G,S) (J Good) B Meehan 8-7	M Tebbutt	(6)
9	(8)	342510	BLUES QUEEN 16 (D,F) (Maygan Ltd) M Channon 8-5	J Carroll	86
10	(6)	125	SONG OF SKYE 27 (F) (E Fenarioli) T Naughton 8-5	M Fenton	75
11	(9)	21125	BAYFORD THRUST 55 (G) (Mrs J Turner) J Berry 8-4	G Carter	81
12	(19)	123435	BRAVEHEART 29 (F) (W Ponsonby) M Channon 8-4	R Perham	83
13	(23)	522126	DOUBLE-J 40 (V,F) (D Armitage) K McAuliffe 8-4	J Stack	86
14	(20)	224113	MAGICAL TIMES 15 (D,F,G) (Mrs L Bell) R Boss 8-4	G Duffield	98
15	(13)	412564	MIJOVA 22 (D,F) (J Graham) R Hollinshead 8-4	K Fallon	81
16	(12)	11524	NIGRASINE 33 (CD,F) (M Glasson) J Eyre 8-4	D McKeown	98
17	(3)	415233	PELHAM 22 (D,F,G) (D Lucie-Smith) R Hannon 8-4	Dane O'Neill	87
18	(11)	30425	THE BAY FOX 12 (G Whitaker) B McMahon 8-4	A Culhane	84
19	(7)	326420	CLASSIC PARK 12 (S) (Mrs S Burns) A O'Brien (Ire) 8-2	J F Egan	93
20	(18)	02	NOMINATOR LAD 48 (J Graham) B McMahon 8-1	T Sprake	71
21	(16)	2103	VASARI 11 (G) (A Tuckerman) M Channon 8-1	C Rutter	92
22	(17)	15	BLANE WATER 16 (D,S) (CH Racing Ltd) J Fanshawe 7-13	D Harrison	95
23	(25)	13106	MARATHON MAID 82 (D,G) (J Stephenson & Lesera Ltd) B Fahey 7-13	F Norton	85
24	(14)	021430	SNAP CRACKLE POP 16 (F) (J Shorrk Wills/D Horn) R J Houghton 7-13	A McGlone	87
25	(10)	1	MUCH COMMENDED 23 (D,F) (A Oppenheimer) G Wragg 7-10	J Quinn	90
26	(26)	351	QUEEN'S PAGEANT 12 (G) (Mrs R Heathcote) J Spearing 7-10	G Bardwell	86

BETTING: 7-1 Much Commended, 8-1 Blane Water, Jhazi, 10-1 Proud Native, 12-1 Magical Times, Nigrasine, Tomba, Vasari, 14-1 Classic Park, Speedball, Truly Parched, 16-1 others.

1995: BLUE IRIS 8-2 P Robinson (8-1 fav) M Jarvis 26 ran

FORM FOCUS

JHAZI beat Archello 4l in 15-runner maiden at Beverley (5f, good to firm), PROUD NATIVE 2½l 2nd of 16 to Indian Rocket in group II Bonusprint Mill Reef Stakes at Newbury (6f, good to firm) with VASARI (6lb better off) 4½l 10th, TOMBA beat SPEEDBALL 2¼l in 6-runner conditions race at Salisbury (6f, good to soft) with MAGICAL TIMES (5lb better off) 2¾l 3rd, MAGICAL TIMES beat TOMBA (3lb worse off) 2¼l in 8-runner conditions race at Doncaster (6f, good to firm) on penultimate start with NIGRASINE (6lb better off) 3¼l and head 4th and OSOMENTAL (7lb better off) 3¼l 5th. PELHAM 5½l 3rd of 30 to Miss Stamper in auction race at the Curragh (6f, good to yielding) on penultimate start with MIJOVA about 2l 5th. BLANE WATER about 1¼l 6th of 23 to Pagan in an auction race at Newmarket (7f, good). MUCH COMMENDED beat Dragoveda 1¾l in a 9-runner maiden at Nottingham (6f, good to firm).

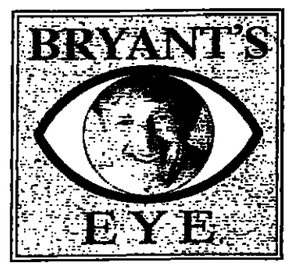
Selection: TOMBA

3.25 STANLEY RACING HANDICAP
(£4,796: 1m) (13 runners)

1

Far better to play a blinder than the fool

BRYANT'S EYE



Beware the sporting gesture. The victory salute, the shaken fist, the V-sign, the dramatic protest, the heavy-handed joke — they can all go very wrong.

Just ask Mark Bosnich. He was hired by Aston Villa as a goalkeeper, not a comedian, and right now he probably wishes that he had stuck to the script; but, like so many other sportsmen these days, he has fallen into the trap of confusing his role in what is now a highly-paid branch of the entertainment industry.

> 'Referees rarely recognise a joke'

At White Hart Lane on Saturday, in response to taunting by the Tottenham Hotspur supporters, Bosnich gave a mock Nazi salute with one gloved finger stuffed beneath his nose in mimicry of the Hitler moustache.

Despite his protestations that it was just a Basil Fawlty-type joke, and not a calculated insult to Tottenham's Jewish support, Bosnich finds himself in deep trouble. He faces a police inquiry and the Football Association has charged him with misconduct. According to his agent (himself Jewish), Bosnich has even received death threats from Israel.

The unfortunate Bosnich, an Australian of Croatian stock, is guilty of being an idiot not to realise the painful implications of his joke — and, however quick he was to apologise and explain, he will find that the incident will haunt him throughout his career.

He is by no means the first sportsman to find that a spur-of-the-moment gesture has threatened dire punishment. Harvey Smith, the showjumper, famously found himself before the stewards of the British Showjumping Association in 1971 charged with making an offensive gesture with two fingers.

Smith and his barrister turned up with a case stuffed full of photographs of Winston Churchill giving his version of the victory sign — and he was cleared of misconduct much to the delight of his followers. Smith is just one example in a catalogue of sport's bad boys disciplined for aggressive gestures to the crowd.

In cricket, David Gower was captured on camera flicking a V-sign at jeering supporters at Old Trafford. In swimming, Tony Jarvis, Great Britain's one-time Olympic captain, found himself dropped from the national team after angry gestures to the crowds. In tennis, Buster Mottram, of Britain, upset everyone by raising two defiant fingers to a defeated Rhodesian.

Despite the best efforts of officials, such villainous behaviour can quickly become part of a player's appeal — and thus a conscious element in his performance. Who can pretend that they watched a John McEnroe or a Vinnie Jones just to admire the finer points of their play?

Other crowd-pleasers are more clown than villain. Spectators expect to be entertained and players are encouraged to fool around as if they are being auditioned for *Question of Sport* or *They Think It's All Over*. There is none greater at playing the fool than Paul Gascoigne.

In one game last season, Gascoigne was even booked for booking the referee. When a yellow card dropped from the referee's pocket in a game between Rangers and Hibernian at Ibrox Stadium, Gascoigne picked it up and waved it at the official. The stands rocked with laughter, but the referee promptly booked him for the gesture.

Gascoigne got himself into more trouble when he celebrated his first goal for Rangers by miming playing a flute — a gesture calculated to endear him to the traditionally Protestant supporters of Rangers that enraged the Catholic supporters of Celtic, their greatest rivals.

> 'It will haunt him throughout his career'

Referees do not often recognise a joke. When Ruben Oliveira, of Uruguay, chose to show his appreciation of an opponent who had missed a seemingly certain goal by giving him a kiss, he was sent off while the crowd were still laughing.

The occasions when gestures are meant to be taken seriously are rare. One such was in 1968, at the Olympic Games in Mexico City, when Tommie Smith and John Carlos, the black American sprinters, gave gloved "Black Power" salutes on the rostrum after the 200 metres. Yet there was a time when the Nazi salute was all too real an issue in sport. In 1936, at the Olympic Games in Berlin, teams had to decide whether they should pay tribute to Hitler by giving him the salute at the opening ceremony. The French march-past raised a deafening and appreciative cheer from the German crowd as all 250 in the team gave Hitler the raised-arm salute.

The British caused angry muttering in the stands by settling for a begrudging "eyes right", with no hand signals. The Americans gestured their disappoval by falling back on a tradition that they had established in 1908 and refusing to dip the Stars and Stripes "to any earthly king".

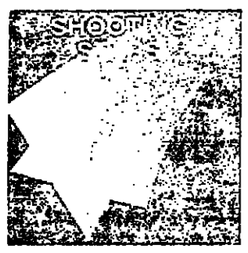
However, the most effective gesture of all in those Games came from Jesse Owens, the black sprinter and superstar of their team. To the dismay of the Führer, he won four gold medals.

It was a gesture more potent than any clenched fist or taunting V-sign, a demonstration of athletic magic and sporting entertainment that no clowning could hope to match. Perhaps Bosnich and his fellow clowns should remember that. Jokes and gimmicks are all very well, but the display of effortless superiority in sport is the greatest gesture of all.

JOHN BRYANT

David Powell meets a former Olympic finalist who is on the dole

Adam determined to win toughest race of his life



Six days a week, he takes the 30p bus ride to training, his BMW sports car parked in the garage. He can no longer afford the insurance and petrol, not on his fortnightly dole cheque for £95. Marcus Adam is officially unemployed. He would rather think of himself, still, as a professional athlete.

He has been running at a loss for three years. Adam did not race at all in 1994 or 1995 and competed only three times this year, looking something less than a professional sprinter. He was consigned to a B race in the British League, failing to win even that: a medal-winner, but only bronze, in the South of England championships; eliminated in the semi-finals of the British Olympic trials.

Yet, for nine consecutive years, from his first youth international in 1984 to 1992, Adam got faster and faster. "The next British superstar", *Athletics Today* magazine suggested in 1990. Few who saw his victory in the Commonwealth Games in Auckland that year would have disagreed. He ran a superb 200 metres, holding the bend beautifully and forcing John Regis to settle for the silver medal.

A month later, Linford Christie suffered his first indoor defeat by a Briton for two years when Adam won the 200 metres at RAF Cosford in a match against East Germany. A month after that, Adam, then 22, a Belgrave Harrier, won over the indoor lap for Great Britain against Russia and the United States. In second place: Michael Johnson. Not the Johnson we know now, but, even then, a 20.07sec 200 metres runner outdoors.

By 1992, Adam was a Barcelona Olympic finalist on four-figure appearance fees and wealthy enough to run a home, a car and to finance six months' training in California.

He went there with Regis and Tony Jarrett, who would go on to take world championship silver medals in Stuttgart the next summer. Adam watched that meeting on television, his own career dispatched to the injury channel. "On the track you live in a wonderland," Adam said. Injuries to both Achilles tendons, a rupture to the right, bursitis to the left, took him to the other side of the looking-glass.

By the time he found appropriate treatment — it was not until October last year that he underwent a second operation — Adam had missed the best part of three years. "When I was doing it [winning], I had people — ringing — up, saying, 'Come here, come there'," Adam said. "As soon as you hit rock bottom, the phone does not ring anymore. People do not want to know you. You become a nobody."

He has lost all his sponsorship deals and may soon have to sell his car. "It has been suffering all the way along, no money coming in, just the dole cheque," he said. "My auntie helps me out with food, and there have been a few friends who have supported me financially. I thought I had a lot of friends in track and field, but there have been only a few who have kept in touch."

They may return if Adam proves as fit as he says he is and if he can keep clear of injuries. He is training, he said, six times a week for five or six hours. "I have done a year of background work and I am fitter now than I have ever been," he said. "If I do not get injured, you are going to see something awesome. I am sure I can run 20.5sec indoors this winter."

Outdoors, Adam has designs not just on making the Great Britain team for the world championships in Athens, but reaching the final. "I am going to run extremely fast, faster than I have in my life," he said.

JULIAN HERBERT



Adam claims to be fitter than ever and is ready to resume his sprinting career

Adam promised much not only at 200 metres, but also at 100 metres. In the Commonwealth Games, he was outdipped by Bruny Surin, who went on to finish runner-up to Donovan Bailey in the world championships last year. In Auckland, Surin ran 10.12sec, Adam 10.14sec. John Isaacs, then Adam's coach, said that he would be the first Briton to follow Christie under ten seconds. We are still waiting for him, or anybody else.

There is no self-delusion by Adam that he might still be ahead of Johnson today had he been more fortunate, though he claims that he would have won more medals. "John [Regis] came back from California in 1993 and ran 19.94sec and I would have gone under 20 seconds as well," Adam said. "I could have been up there with them, most definitely. Could have, would have, but it did not happen."

One reason Adam, now 28, gives for his optimism that he can set new personal bests is that his present ones were achieved when he smoked, drank and partied. "I was smoking 30-40 cigarettes a day, 60 if I really got bored," he said. It may seem improbable, but he insists that it is true. A more disciplined lifestyle would lead, inevitably, to improvement.

"If I am successful again, I will have outside interests to keep me stimulated," he said. "In those days I could drink, I could smoke, I could run fast. I have not got the money to do those things now. I do not go out. I head to the track, I come home."

Has a promising career been stubbed out? Or will Marcus Adam light up once more and leave the opposition trailing in his smoke? The next 12 months should tell.

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Reader's Digest

SAILING

Capstick celebrates a special delivery

AS THE leading yachts in the BT Global Challenge pick up steady southeasterly winds, indicating that they may now be through the Doldrum belt, there has been special excitement on board *Ocean Rover* at the news of the birth of a daughter to Jim and Tracey Capstick (Edward Gorman writes).

Tracey, who has written for *The Times* about her battle to come to terms with being separated from her husband as a result of his participation in the race, gave birth late on Tuesday. Her husband, who is around 1,900 miles from Rio in mid-Atlantic, was immediately informed via Portishead Radio.

In a short message yesterday from Humphrey Walters, one of Capstick's fellow crew members, the mood of celebration was obvious. "PS from *Ocean Rover*," the message read. "Sorry, but we have just heard Jim Capstick has a baby girl. He is overcome with emotion and is having a fag."

BT Global Challenge

The latest arrival is the Capstick's third child and follows their two boys, now aged seven and ten.

"I am delighted," Capstick said later. "I was going to name her after the *Ocean Rover* crew, but perhaps Georgia is a bit more concise. I can't wait to see her and I just wish I could have been with Tracey."

Mike Golding, on *Group 4*, continues to lead the race and looks the favourite to be first into Rio. Still the most westerly boat of the 14-strong fleet, he again recorded the highest 24-hour run yesterday, 177 miles, and appears to be through the Doldrums.

BT Global chart, page 48

TODAY'S FIXTURES

FOOTBALL

European Cup Winners' Cup
Second round, first leg
FC Sion v Liverpool (7.0)

Uefa under-18 championship
Qualifying match
Scotland v Wales (at Roda Raalte Stadium, Holland, 2.30)

PONTINS CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division: West Bromwich v Leicester (7.0)
SCHOOLS MATCHES: English Schools Fuji Film Trophy: Second round: Rotherham v Huddersfield (at Rotherham United FC, 7.0) Hertfordshire League (4.30) Dacorum v North Herts, Lea Valley v Mid Herts Watford v St Albans

OTHER SPORT

GOLF: Toyota World Matchplay Championship (at Wentworth)
ICE HOCKEY: Superleague: Ayr v Manchester (6.30). Basingstoke v Newcastle (7.40)
SNOOKER: Grand Prix (in Bournemouth)
SPEEDWAY: Premier League: Ipswich v Swindon (7.30)
TENNIS: Texaco women's challenger tournament (in Cardiff).

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 48

FACER
(c) One who puts on a bold face; one who boasts or swaggers; a braggart, bully. From *face*. Latin *facies*. Latimer, sermon 1550: "Nay; there be no greater tattlers, nor boasters nor facers than they be."

GAYAL
(b) A semi-domesticated kind of ox common in Burma, Assam and Bengal. By some believed to be a variety of *Gaur*. By others regarded as a distinct species (*Bibos frontalis*). "When a rich man has made a contract of marriage, he gives four or five head of gayals (the cattle of the mountains) to the father and mother of the bride."

GROGRAM
(b) A coarse fabric of silk, of mohair and wool, or of these mixed with silk; often stiffened with gum. An adaptation of the French *gros grain* large or coarse grain.

FOWAGE
(c) A kind of feuage or hearth tax, from the French *feu* a fire. "What were the fowage and the subsidies when bread was but four mites that's now a groat?"

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

1. Nd6! cxd6 (or 2. Ne5 follows); 2. cxd6 and the black rook is trapped and so White emerges with rook against bishop and an easy win on material.

RADIO CHOICE

A fly on the school wall

Ruscoe on Five. *Radio 5 Live, 2.05pm.*

I must remind you of something special that is happening on *Ruscoe on Five* every day this week. It is Mark Smalley's fly-on-the-wall reports on practically every facet of life at Yorkmead Primary School in Hall Green, Birmingham. So far, I have learnt a great deal about the heavy load that is being carried by the head ("more a social worker than a head"), the handling of disruptive pupils, and the roles played by parents and governors. Today, it is the worrying problem of how to meet the demands of the national curriculum: less time for the three Rs because extra subjects have to be packed into an already overloaded day. Tomorrow, there is a live discussion about the curriculum. I predict that some heat will be generated.

The Joke. *Radio 4, 2.00pm.*

Stephen Mollett's drama about a Hungarian exile's return to Budapest 40 years after the Soviet invasion, complements yesterday's Radio 4 documentary, *Where is 1956?* which used the same framework. The difference is that *The Joke* is fiction. It employs that useful dramatic device: "Subject: blood is thicker than water. Discuss." John Nettles plays the consultant who goes to Budapest to advise on the demolition of a block of dwellings and their replacement by a project that is commercially preferable. A reunion with his aunt (Pauline Letts) causes him to change his plans — to work on building something up instead of knocking something down. **Peter Davalle**

RADIO 1

6.30am Mark Radcliffe **9.00** Simon Mayo, includes the Golden Hour **12.00** Lisa I'Anson includes Newsbeat **2.00pm** Nicky Campbell **4.00** Mark Goodier, includes **5.30-5.45** Newsbeat **7.00** Evening Session **9.00** Soundbite, with Danny Kelly **10.00** John Peel **12.00** Mary Anne Hobbs **4.00am** Clive Warren

RADIO 2

6.00am Martin Kelner **7.30** Wake Up to Wogan **9.30** Ken Bruce **11.30** Vincent Hanna **1.30pm** Debbie Thrower **3.00** Ed Stewart **5.05** Chris Serie **7.00** The News Huddlines, with Roy Hudd, June Whitfield and Chris Emmet **7.30** David Allan **9.00** Paul Jones **9.45** Gospel Train **10.30** The Jamesons **12.05am** Steve Madden **3.00** Alex Lester

RADIO 5 LIVE

5.00am Morning Reports, incl **5.45** Wake Up to Money **6.00** The Breakfast Programme, incl **6.55** and **7.55** Racing Preview **8.35** The Magazine, with Brian Hayes, incl **10.35** News from Europe **12.00** Midday with Mair, incl **12.35pm** Moneycheck **2.05** Ruscoe on Five, See Choice **4.00** Nationwide, incl at **5.45** Entertainment News **7.00** News Extra, incl at **7.20** Sports Bulletin **7.35** The Thursday Match, Sion v Liverpool **8.05** Inside Edge, with Rob Bonnet **9.05** SportsAmerica, with Alton Byrd **9.35** America Graffiti, with Jonathan Freedland **10.05** News Talk, with Paul Reynolds **11.00** Night Extra, with Valerie Sanderson **12.05am** After Hours — Early Call **2.05** Up All Night

TALK RADIO

5.00am Early Breakfast **7.00** Paul Ross **9.00** Scott Chisholm **12.00** Anna Raeburn **2.00pm** Tommy Boyd **4.00** Drivetime, with Peter Deeley **7.00** Moz Dee's Sportszone **10.00** James Whale **1.00am** Ian Collins

WORLD SERVICE

5.30am Europe Today **6.30** Europe Today **7.15** World Today **7.30** Sports Roundup **8.15** Off the Shelf **8.30** Network UK **9.10** Composer of the Month **9.45** Health Matters **10.05** Business **10.15** Sports Roundup **10.45** Sport **11.30** BBC English **11.45** Off the Shelf **12.30pm** Meridian **1.00** News in German **1.05** Business **1.15** Britain Today **1.30** Islam, Faith and Power **3.05** Outlook **3.30** Multitrack **4.05** Sport **4.15** BBC English **4.30** News in German **5.30** Business **5.45** Britain Today **6.05** World Today **6.25** Take Five **6.30** News in German **6.45** Sport **7.30** Islam, Faith and Power **9.05** Outlook **9.25** Words of Faith **9.30** John Peel **10.05** Business **10.15** Britain Today **10.30** Meridian **11.30** World Today **11.45** Sport **12.10am** Take Five **12.15** Soundbyte **12.30** Bhangra Beat **1.30** Good Books **1.45** Britain Today **2.30** Outlook **2.55** Words of Faith **3.30** Thirty-Minute Drama **4.15** Sport **4.30** Europe Today

CLASSIC FM

4.00am Mark Griffiths **6.00** Mike Read **9.00** Henry Kelly **12.00** Susannah Simons **2.00pm** Lunchtime Concerto J S Bach (Concerto for Flute, Violin and Harpsichord) **3.00** Jamie Crick **6.00** Newsnight **6.30** Sonata Saint-Saëns (Oboe Sonata, Op 166) **7.00** Travel Guide Chicago **8.00** Evening Concert Vaughan Williams (Fantasia on a Theme of Thomas Tallis, Oboe Concerto), Saint-Saëns (Violin Concerto No 3 in B minor, Op 61; Symphony No 3 in C minor, Op 78, Organ) **10.00** Michael Mappin **1.00am** Sally Peterson

VIRGIN RADIO

6.00am Russ 'n' Jono's Breakfast Experience **9.00** Richard Skinner **12.00** Graham Dene **4.00pm** Nicky Horne **7.00** Paul Coyte (FM) / Robin Banks (AM) **10.00** Mark Forrest **2.00am** Randal Lee Rose

RADIO 3

6.00am On Air. Includes Beethoven (String Quartet in C, Op 59 No 3, Rasumovsky); Wagner (Overture, Tannhäuser); Strauss (Aus Italien)
9.00 Morning Collection. Includes Handel (Sonata in G minor, Op 1 No 2) Berlioz (La Mort de Sardanapale); Strauss (Don Quixote)
10.00 Musical Encounters. Includes Sweelinck (Ballo del Granduca); Gay (The Beggar's Opera, excerpts). *Artist of the Week*: Mitsuko Uchida
12.00 Composer of the Week: Franck. Gillian Weir talks about Franck's organ music and plays Chorale No 1 in E
1.00pm News; Bel Canto Voices. Richard Bonynge chooses Caruso, Callas, Caballe and his wife Joan Sutherland
2.00 Schoenberg and Reger at Princeton. Martin Souter, organ. Includes Schoenberg (Variations on a Recitative, Op 40); Reger (Benedictus, Op 59 No 9)
3.10 Bach. Sonata in G, BWV1039. Jean-Pierre Rampal and Alain Marion, flutes, Robert Veyron-Lacroix, harpsichord, Jordi Savall, viola da gamba
3.25 Out of the Air. Poet Dannie Abse remembers the impact of the Third Programme
3.30 The BBC Orchestras. BBC National Orchestra of Wales, conductor Mark Wigglesworth. Thomas Zehetmair, violin. Includes Berg (Violin Concerto) Ravel (La Valse)
5.00 Music Machine. Tommy Pearson investigates unconventional tunings
5.15 In Tune. Live from the Tate Gallery, London, with Natalie Wheen including interviews with this year's winners of the Prudential Awards for the Arts
7.30 The Controllers' Concerts. Live from Cripplegate, London. Nicholas Kenyon has chosen Ockeghem (Missa Prolationum, Kyrie, Gloria); Bach (Canonic Variations on Von Himmel Hoch, BWV769); Ockeghem (Missa Prolationum, Credo); Bach (The Art of Fugue, BWV1080, excerpts); Brahms (Missa Canonica); Machaut (Ma Fin est mon Commencement). BBC Singers, Kevin Bowyer, organ, Hilliard Ensemble under Stefan Parkman
8.50 Five Poems for 50 Years. The Knowing, by the American poet Sharon Olds
9.10 The BBC Orchestras. BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra, conductor Jerzy Maksymiuk, Peter Lawson, piano. Walton (Overture: Portsmouth Point); Prokofiev (Piano Concerto No 1); Copland (Four Dances from Rodeo)
10.00 Music Restored. George Pratt at the 1996 York Early Music Festival
10.45 Night Waves. Playwright Harold Pinter talks to his biographer Michael Billington
11.30 Composer of the Week: Smetana. Includes Vivace — Nationalism; String Quartet No 1 in E minor (From My Life, 4th mvt; Festival Overture in D)
12.30am Jazz Notes. Steve Voce talks to George Wein and Ernie Garside
1.00 Through the Night

RADIO 4

5.55am Shipping (LW) 6.00 News Briefing **6.10** Farming Today **6.25** Prayer for the Day **6.30** Today **8.40** Yesterday in Parliament **8.58** Weather
9.00 News 9.05 Face the Facts, with John Waite (r)
9.30 Common Ground. Conor Gearty chairs the discussion programme that attempts to find a common ground between two apparently irreconcilable positions
10.00 News; King Solomon's Carpet (FM), written by Barbara Vine, adapted by Nick Fisher. With Mark Strong
10.00 Daily Service (LW)
10.15 On This Day (LW)
10.30 Woman's Hour
11.30 From Our Own Correspondent. Reports from BBC correspondents around the world
12.00 News; You and Yours
12.25pm Questions of Taste. Chris Kelly hosts the lighthearted culinary quiz. With Valentina Harris, Keith Barron, Ainsley Harriot and Nigella Lawson **12.55** Weather
1.00 The World at One
1.40 The Archers (r) **1.55** Shipping Forecast
2.00 News; The Joke. See Choice
3.00 News; The Afternoon Shift
4.00 News 4.05 Kaleidoscope. Paul Allen reviews *Art*, the 1994 Paris stage hit which arrives in Britain in a new translation by Christopher Hampton and starring Albert Finney and Tom Courtenay. Plus *Angela's Ashes* by the Irish author Frank McCourt
4.45 Short Story: Discovering Brendan, written and read by Marie Jones
5.00 PM 5.50 Shipping **5.55** Weather
6.00 Six O'Clock News
6.30 And I'm the Queen of Sheba. Ken Livingstone, MP, chairs a panel game about lies and deceit. With guests Neil Mullarkey, Hattie Hayridge, Tony Hawks and Mark Steel
7.00 News 7.05 The Archers
7.20 It's Not Enough to Be Hungarian. Peter Sasdy talks to Hungarian immigrants about their experiences in their adopted homeland
8.00 Analysis: Breaking the Logjam. Will the talks about the future of Northern Ireland succeed? Brendan O'Leary investigates
8.45 The Writer's Day Out. The series in which writers best known for creating fiction become reporters for the day
9.00 Does He Take Sugar? The programme for people with disabilities. Presented by Frederick Dove
9.30 Kaleidoscope (r) **9.59** Weather
10.00 The World Tonight, with Robin Lustig
10.45 Book at Bedtime: Fluke (4/5) (r)
11.00 Untitled Play, by Sam McCartney With George Parsons and Tessa Worsley (r)
11.30 Ad Lib. Robert Robinson meets a group of vicars' daughters (r)
12.00 News 12.30am The Late Book: Primary Colors. The anonymously authored bestseller read by Clarke Peters (4/10)
12.48 Shipping Forecast 1.00 As World Service

FREQUENCY GUIDE. RADIO 1. FM 97.6-99.8. **RADIO 2.** FM 88.0-720. **RADIO 5 LIVE.** MW 693, 909. **WORLD SERVICE.** MW 648; LW 198 (12.45-5.55am). **CLASSIC FM.** FM 100-102. **VIRGIN RADIO.** FM **and radio listings compiled by Peter Dear, Ian Hughes, Rosemary Smith, Susan Thomson, Jane Gregory and John McNamara.**

هكذا من الأصل

هكذا من الأصل

A good night on BBC2, but don't quote me

REVIEW



Lynne Truss

A worrying time for anyone with a gift of quotation last night, because the first instalment of **Testament: the Bible in Animation** (BBC2) kept coming up with fabulous, deathless lines which somehow we'd never heard before. "Haul back the daylight," cries Pharoah in anguish, carrying his dead son in his arms: his small figure seen from above, as a small dot. "Everything I love," he bemoans, in close-up. "Why can I keep nothing? I had a friend among the Hebrews once." Meanwhile Moses stands on a cliff above the Red Sea, his white hair flowing, staff in hand, commanding the waves. And the temptation to comment in a big deep voice "Blow winds and crack your cheeks" is almost overwhelming.

I enjoyed *Testament* so much I watched it twice. Such grandeur you don't expect at 7pm. The vocal performances of Simon Callow and Martin Jarvis as Pharoah and Moses were splendid, and Nigel Forde's script not only added thoughtful themes (such as an invented childhood friendship between Moses and his oppressor), but spared us the plague of boils, which was a relief. Only the animation style (by Gary Hurst) was hard to get used to. Long, angular people never went anywhere without long, angular shadows. Their faces split straight down the middle between light and dark, and they all had chins that jutted forward, like Desperate Dan. Pharoah's sidekick had a jackal-head (literally) but everyone was too polite to mention it.

Personally, I was never too happy about the *Animated Shakespeare* project — the bare bones of the story being generally the least satisfying aspect of a Shakespeare play. But bits of the Bible are fair game, especially as the English-speaking world has long stopped making biblical epics, and all the theatrical sandal-makers, camel-handlers, and burning-bush specialists have gone tragically belly-up. Last night's 30-minute *Moses* is probably the first such drama since Burt Lancaster starred in *Moses the Lawgiver*, all of 20 years ago. Last year I met an actor who was just heading for North Africa to play Samson's Dad in a new film, and it sounded wildly improbable, like an exercise in time travel.

Still on BBC2 (but changing the subject) one of the incidental delights of **Two Fat Ladies** is that the itinerant cooks are like tiresome parents in a play by Peter Nichols — they can never let a trigger-word pass without supplying the appropriate adage or quote.

"Wake up Jennifer," you can imagine Clarissa Dickson Wright saying to her companion. "Right-oh. Christians awake, salute the happy morn," replies her chum, cheerfully. If they are having trouble with a map, they are poor little lambs that have lost their way. When they stand on the deck of a fishing boat, they are obliged to say "Captain, art thou sleeping down below?". Jennifer wipes her fingers and declares that all the perfumes of Arabia will not sweeten those little hands. "It looks rather like a Union Jack," says Jennifer, indicating a meatloaf with criss-crossed bacon on its back. "Rule, Britannia," sings Clarissa, without hesitation.

Two Fat Ladies is terrific telly, partly because the food is as big and forthright as the presenters. Eating low-fat rice pudding from a tin while Jennifer Paterson "squished" lamb's kidneys into a big bowl full of raw organic mince, I suddenly saw myself through her eyes, and felt ashamed of such a weedy diet. "Out, vile jelly," I said therefore, and tipped it in the bin. Last week Jennifer waved a big spoon at the camera and told us to stop thinking of yoghurt as a substitute for cream: "Yoghurt is very good for your breakfast, or if you have a poor tummy, or if you're a vegetarian or something. But for cream, there is ... Nothing. Better. Than Cream."

Some of the stooging is a bit too silly, but the cooking is wonderful and I like the way they "slosh it in" and "muck it about a bit" — which Delia Smith has never been known to do. And meanwhile there's all that press-button quoting to enjoy. "Gone, gone, and never called me mother" hasn't come up yet, so watch out.

How boring when all the telly is good — but that's BBC2 for you. Last night's **Decisive Weapons** (BBC2) was another fascinating programme in an excellent series, this week examining the longbow, and squaring up to the heroic Henry V myth of "We few, we happy few, we band of brothers". Agincourt was a great turning point in the history of war, when for the first time "knights were shot at by peasants". Sean Bean narrated again, and Robert Hardy made a guest appearance, because he's written a book about longbows (how odd). Whizz, whizz, boing, thud went the arrows, at alarming and deathly speed. My only misgiving about the programme was about the people who might be watching it — people whose handguns had just been banned, for instance.

Beck (BBC1) is still on the runway as a drama series, even after three episodes. It just can't get airborne. Perhaps the problem is that Beck is too independent and cheerful: when her men squabble over her, she just thinks they are stupid, and gets a bag of chips. Last night's story concerned a man intent on suicide. Beck tracked him to the Lake District, but didn't have anything to tell him to change his mind. In fact she found him just as he had swallowed a lethal dose of pills, and was wading into a lake.

Too late, was it? Oh yes. Or as Jennifer and Clarissa would perhaps have said: "Too late, too late, shall be the cry, Arnold the ice-cream man's gone by."

BBC1

6.00am BUSINESS BREAKFAST (95746)
7.00 BBC BREAKFAST NEWS (Ceefax) (26017)
9.00 BREAKFAST NEWS EXTRA (Ceefax) (5315388)
9.20 STYLE CHALLENGE (s)(2200123)
9.45 KILROY (s) (2030104)
10.30 CAN'T COOK, WON'T COOK (s) (95562)
11.00 NEWS (Ceefax) and weather (6614123)
11.05 THE REALLY USEFUL SHOW (s) (7887901)
11.45 SMILLIE'S PEOPLE (1693611)
12.00 NEWS (Ceefax) and weather (7253814)
12.05pm SNOWY RIVER — THE MCGREGOR SAGA (8630814)
12.50 FANCY THAT! (65715543)
1.00 NEWS (Ceefax) and weather (29104)
1.30 REGIONAL NEWS (57166727)
1.40 NEIGHBOURS (Ceefax) (s) (44123949)
2.00 CALL MY BLUFF (s) (5307)
2.30 THE TERRACE (s) (369)
3.00 INCOGNITO Quiz (s) (4814)
3.30 LITTLE BEAR (s) (7150340) **3.55 THE CHIPMUNKS** (r) (s)(2707320) **4.20 JULIA JEKYLL AND HARRIET HYDE** (Ceefax) (s) (8520475) **4.35 SMART** (Ceefax) (s) (4733320) **5.00 NEWSROUND** (Ceefax) (2100123) **5.10 BYKER GROVE** (Ceefax) (6206727)
5.35 NEIGHBOURS (r) (Ceefax) (s) (357543)
6.00 NEWS (Ceefax)and weather (758)
6.30 REGIONAL NEWS MAGAZINES (678)
7.00 WATCHDOG presented by Anne Robinson (Ceefax) (s) (9123)
7.30 EASTENDERS Cindy manages to deceive Kathy but Ian is not so easily fooled. David leaves nothing to chance (Ceefax) (s) (562)
8.00 ANIMAL HOSPITAL Another visit to the RSPCA's Harmsworth Memorial Hospital (Ceefax) (s) (5543)
8.30 THE HELLO GIRLS Comedy set in a telephone exchange in 1959. Sylvia must put her personal problems aside when a suicidal caller comes on the line. With Letitia Dean (Ceefax) (s) (4678)
9.00 NEWS (Ceefax), regional news and weather (5388)
9.30 THE X FILES: OUBLIETTE Mulder suspects that a young woman, who was kidnapped as a child, has made a psychic connection with a missing teenager (Ceefax) (s) (514036)
10.15 THEY THINK IT'S ALL OVER This week's guests are Mark Hurst and Dermot Reeve (Ceefax) (s) (578475)
10.45 QUESTION TIME from London. The panel includes MPs Michael Heseltine and Margaret Beckett, Chris Haskins, the chairman of Northern Foods, and Sheila Lawlor, director of the Politeia think-tank (Ceefax) (544678)
11.45 CLIVE ANDERSON ALL TALK (r) (Ceefax) (s) (160776)
12.20am FILM: CHINA CRY (1990) starring Julia Nickson Soul A fact-based drama about a woman's search for justice in 1950s China. Directed by James F. Collier (158811)
2.00 WEATHER (8003789)

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BBC2

6.00am OPEN UNIVERSITY
7.15 SEE HEAR BREAKFAST NEWS (Ceefax and signing) (6071272)
7.30 ALVIN AND THE CHIPMUNKS (r) (4448253) **7.55 BLUE PETER** (r) (Ceefax) (s) (8507630) **8.20 NODDY** (r) (s) (1249036)
8.35 THE RECORD (s) (8964104)
9.00 DAYTIME ON TWO: THE IT COLLETION (2288901) **9.25 THE ART** (5325765) **9.45 WRITING AND PICTURES** (1659017) **10.00**
PLAYDAYS (70340) **10.30 STORYTIME** (1797388) **10.45 TEACHING TODAY** (416036) **11.15 WELSH HISTORY — FAMOUS PEOPLE** (9451291) **11.35 LANDMARKS: INVESTIGATING LOCAL HISTORY** (3635611) **11.55 BELIEF FILE: CHRISTIANITY IN BRITAIN** (1611017) **12.15pm HALLO AUS BERLIN** (7104017)
12.30 WORKING LUNCH (12727) **1.00 LIFESCHOOL** (85438794) **1.25 MAD ABOUT MUSIC** (17160524) **1.45 NUMBERTIME** (57176104)
2.00 NODDY (r) (s) (18384185)
2.10 GOLF: TOYOTA WORLD MATCH PLAY Steve Rider introduces live coverage from the West Course, Wentworth (s). Includes **News** and weather at **3.00** and **3.55** (79575659)
5.20 THE OPRAH WINFREY SHOW (Ceefax) (s) (9086036)
6.00 STAR TREK: DEEP SPACE NINE Science fiction drama series. (Ceefax) (s) (794949)
6.45 QUANTUM LEAP. Off-beat adventures of a time-trapped scientist. Sam Beckett goes back to 1961 and finds himself as a chimpanzee in a space capsule. Starring Scott Bakula (r)(Ceefax) (892340)
7.30 REGIONAL PROGRAMMES (104)
8.00 THE WORKS: THE MAN WHO WANTED TO FLY (Ceefax) (s) (3185)
8.30 TOP GEAR A guide to the Motor Show at the NEC, Birmingham (Ceefax) (s) (5920)



Gary Bakewell as Richard (9.00pm)

9.00 NEVERWHERE In the conclusion of the urban fantasy Angel has the key in his possession and there is only one person who can stand between him and his ambition. With Gary Bakewell, Laura Fraser, Hywel Bennett and Clive Russell (Ceefax) (s) (6630)
9.30 THE SYSTEM: Incapacity (Ceefax) (s) (72098)
10.30 NEWSNIGHT with Jeremy Paxman (Ceefax) (602185)
11.15 GOLF: TOYOTA WORLD MATCHPLAY Steve Rider introduces highlights of the opening round from the West Course, Wentworth (s) (429949)
12.05am GRACE UNDER FIRE American comedy series (s) (7522321)
12.30-6.00 THE LEARNING ZONE

CHOICE

The Works: The Man Who Wanted To Fly
BBC2, 8.00pm (Wales 7.30pm; Scotland tomorrow 7.15pm; not Northern Ireland)
An exhibition at the Imperial War Museum in London is the peg for this film about Paul Nash, an official war artist in both the World Wars. Perhaps the only grumble about a thoroughly competent exercise, which deals equally effectively with the artist and the private man and makes the necessary connections between them, is that half an hour is not enough. Nash deserves at least an *Omnibus*. But a lot is conveyed in a short space, with Nash's lesser-known Second World War aircraft paintings getting as much attention as his famously ravaged landscapes of the Western Front. The programme also reminds us of Nash's very different peacetime work. Helping to provide context and illumination are Jill Craigie, who made a documentary about Nash in 1942, and *The Times*'s Richard Cork.

Dosh
Channel 4, 8.00pm
Adam Faith's latest entertaining trawl through ways of making money and saving it features a couple who won £368,000 on the National Lottery through departing by mistake from their usual numbers formula. It is a tip we could all try but we might be on firmer ground following the advice of Antonia Swinson, who claims to have cut her weekly grocery bill from £100 to £60 by shopping around. Except that many of us haven't the time or patience to discover that one supermarket's margarine is selling for 1p a tub less than another's. The week's most intriguing story is of the former naval officer turned carpet salesman. He has used his redundancy money to buy a franchise and promises to set the South West humming. People of Devon and Cornwall, beware.

Thief Takers
ITV, 9.00pm
Not for the first time in the Flying Squad series, the regular cast is upstaged by a one-off character. The excellent Scottish actor Douglas Henshall plays the getaway driver for a gang of armed robbers and we learn more about him in ten minutes than we seem destined ever to know about Reece Dinsdale's DI Charlie Scott and his team. Given his opportunity by a script which portrays his character as a troubled homosexual, emotionally dependent on a father who is dying of cancer, Henshall does not scorn it. But rounded portraits are the exception in a series which relies for its impact on action rather than words. And action we get, as Henshall is enlisted as a police informer but seized by last-minute panic as the gang prepares to ram-raid a building society with a forklift truck.

The System — Incapacity
BBC2, 9.30pm
Having stayed in Whitehall and Westminster last week, the series on the social security system moves for its final episode back into the field. The film is about the introduction of incapacity benefit, an initiative of the Secretary of State for Social Security, Peter Lilley. He is worried that despite a general improvement in the nation's health, payments for sickness and invalidity have more than doubled in a few years. The aim of the new benefit is to reduce expenditure, but, as the film follows the first year of operation in Glasgow, the difficulties soon appear. In the process of sorting out genuine claimants from fraudsters, the doctors who are obliged to carry out medical tests are often caught reluctantly in the middle. The moral of an often revealing series is that with social security there are no easy solutions. Peter Waymark

HTV

6.00am GMTV (7314949)
9.25 SUPERMARKET SWEEP (2285814)
9.55 REGIONAL NEWS (Teletext) (6072098)
10.00 THE TIME, THE PLACE (259741)
10.30 THIS MORNING (27382562)
12.20pm REGIONAL NEWS (7259098)
12.30 NEWS (Teletext)
12.55 SHORTLAND STREET (s) (3909659) **1.25 CORONATION STREET** (r) (Teletext) (6944036) **2.00 HOME AND AWAY** (Teletext) (s) (27500017) **2.25 QUISINE** (Teletext) (s) (27589524) **2.50 VANESSA** (Teletext) (s) (9605388)
3.20 NEWS (5204388)
3.30 THE RIDDLERS (9455746) **3.40 WIZADORA** (8875475) **3.50 OLD BEAR STORIES** (9459562) **4.05 SCOOBY DOO** (4410524) **4.15 WOOF!** (210949) **4.45 IT'S A MYSTERY** (Teletext) (1898052)
5.10 A COUNTRY PRACTICE (s) (8000104)
5.40 NEWS (Teletext) (530949)
6.00 HOME AND AWAY (r) (Teletext) (s) (318727)
6.25 HTV NEWS (Teletext) (576630)
7.00 EMMERDALE A new Dingle turns up at the homestead. Jack fights hard to defeat Frank's plans and Zoe is upset by a surprise departure (Teletext) (s) (4291)
7.30 THE BIG STORY: Fat Cats Using concealed cameras, the programme exposes how some Euro MPs are getting massive increases on their salaries through a lucrative system of excessive subsistence and travel allowances (630)



Simon Rouse as Meadows (8.00pm)

8.00 THE BILL: Out of the Past An old friend of Meadows stands accused of murder (Teletext) (4681)
8.30 SCHOFIELD'S TV GOLD Phillip Schofield presents the last in the series of classic television moments. This week's theme is love and romance with contributions from Ken Dodd, Jasper Carrott, Les Dawson and Morecambe and Wise (Teletext) (s) (9746)
9.00 THIEF TAKERS: NASTY BOYS (Teletext) (s) (8727)
10.00 ITN NEWS AT TEN (72611)
10.30 REGIONAL NEWS (501543)
10.40 THE WEST STORY Looking at some of the characters involved in the regions catering businesses (Teletext) (408982)
11.10 THE WEST THIS WEEK (853794)
11.40 SWIFT JUSTICE (s) (394814)
12.35am THE WAR OF THE WORLDS (s) (7361708)
1.35 NOT FADE AWAY (8911789)
2.35 FLUX (6298925)
3.35 LATE & LOUD (9095091)
4.35 THE TIME ... THE PLACE (87771429)
5.00 GARDEN CALENDAR (80876)
5.30 NEWS (75857)

HTV WALES

As HTV WEST except:
6.25pm-7.00 WALES TONIGHT (576630) **7.30-8.00 WALES THIS WEEK** (630) **10.40 THE FERRET** (408982) **11.10 A SPORTING DOUBLE** (853794) **11.40 THE BIG STORY** (6642721) **12.10am SHORT STORY CINEMA**

WESTCOUNTRY

As HTV West except:
12.25pm-12.30 ILLUMINATIONS (7267017)
12.55 EMMERDALE (3909659)
1.25-1.55 QUISINE (76983889)
1.55 HOME AND AWAY (14542611)
2.25 VANESSA (27503104)
2.55 A COUNTRY PRACTICE (1229302)
5.10-5.40 HOME AND AWAY (8000104)
6.00-7.00 WESTCOUNTRY LIVE (17272)
10.30 WESTCOUNTRY NEWS (625123)
10.45 A DAY IN THE LIFE (562814)
11.15 SPECIAL REPORT (569727)
11.45 PRISONER CELL BLOCK H (551272)

CENTRAL

As HTV West except:
12.55 HOME AND AWAY (3909659)
1.25 QUISINE (76983889)
1.55 A COUNTRY PRACTICE (44197524)
2.20 VANESSA (27504833)
2.50-3.20 HIGH ROAD (9805388)
5.10-5.40 SHORTLAND STREET (8000104)
10.40 MOTOR SHOW (177814)
11.40 LONDON BRIDGE (664272)
12.10am REVELATIONS (5789050)
12.45 PLANET ROCK PROFILES (94586)
1.15 FUNNY BUSINESS (6507234)
1.40 NOT FADE AWAY (8903760)
2.40 FLUX (5528708)
3.30 THE CRIME HOUR (6449895)
4.35 JOBFINDER (3807906)
5.20 ASIAN EYE (5229586)

MERIDIAN

As HTV West except:
12.55pm QUISINE (3909659)
1.25 HOME AND AWAY (76983889)
1.55 SHORTLAND STREET (44197524)
2.20 VANESSA (27504833)
2.50-3.20 HOUSEPARTY (9605388)
5.10 HOME AND AWAY (8000104)
6.00 MERIDIAN TONIGHT (494)
6.30-7.00 TRUE ... BUT STRANGE (748)
10.30 MERIDIAN NEWS (625123)
10.45 FILM: TERROR ON TRACK NINE (25333920)
5.00am FREESCREEN (80876)

S4C

Starts: 6.35 PRO STARS (9825307) **7.00 THE BIG BREAKFAST** (19727) **9.00 HERE'S ONE I MADE EARLIER** (59388) **9.30 YSGOLION** (244659) **12.00pm WILD WEST COUNTRY** (79524) **12.30 BACKDATE** (30123) **1.00 SLOT METHRIN** (12814) **1.30 THE MAKING OF AN ENGLISHMAN** (3942340) **2.25 RACING** (76294140) **4.30 BIRDS OF THE BURNING SODA** (543) **5.00 5 PUMP** (9369) **5.30 COUNTDOWN** (123) **6.35 JACPOT** (578272) **7.00 POBOL Y CWM** (629765) **7.25 ROWND PWY NESA'?** (854340) **8.00 GORAU GWLAD** (8253) **8.30 NEWYDDION** (7388) **9.00 I DOT** (6369) **10.00 FILM: DON'T TELL MOM THE BABYSITTER'S DEAD** (826415) **11.55 DISPATCHES** (884164) **12.55am CARLO SCARPA** (7342673)

CHANNEL 4

6.35am PRO STARS (r) (9825307)
7.00 THE BIG BREAKFAST (19727)
9.00 HERE'S ONE I MADE EARLIER Cookery (99388)
9.30 SCHOOLS: Middle English **9.45** The Maths Programme **10.05** Scientific Eye **10.25** Geographical Eye **10.45** Le Petit Monde de Pierre **11.00** The English Programme **11.20** Film and Video Showcase **11.40** The Spanish Programme (244659)
12.00 AUSTRALIA WILD (r) (79524)
12.30pm BACKDATE (30123)
1.00 SESAME STREET (8741307)
1.55 THE LIVING SEA: The Signals (Teletext) (s) (14540253)
2.25 RACING From Newmarket and Redcar A seven-race card (s) (76294140)
4.30 COUNTDOWN (Teletext) (s) (543)
5.00 RICKI LAKE (Teletext) (s) (2502307)
5.45 SYRUP Winner of the Short Film Jury Prize at Cannes about a bald, down-trodden man who gets some hair and fights back (r) (Teletext) (s) (8057685)
6.00 EERIE INDIANA (r) (Teletext) (956)
6.30 HOLLYOAKS (Teletext) (s) (388)
7.00 CHANNEL 4 NEWS (Teletext) (985659)
7.50 THE SLOT (936727)



Adam Faith talks money (8.00pm)

8.00 DOSH Adam Faith introduces a three-year-old model who makes more money than her mother. Plus the first of a two-part feature on a naval officer, Ian Surgey, who swaps his life at sea for that of a carpet salesman (Teletext) (s) (8253)
8.30 DESIRE Fashion series presented by Sophie Anderton. Featuring an exclusive look at Gianfranco Ferre's new collection (2/5) (Teletext) (s) (7388)
9.00 DISPATCHES Revealing how MI6 has had intimate knowledge of Argentina's plans to rearm in the wake of the Falklands War — but has done nothing to prevent it (Teletext) (s) (6369)
10.00 FILM: Stolen Babies (1992) with Lee Thompson. Drama based on a true story of a woman's fight against bureaucracy in the world of abused children and her fight to change the laws of adoption. Directed by Eric Laneuville (354659)
11.45 FOUR-MATIONS: Continental Passions (s) (360974)
12.20am KIDS IN THE HALL Canadian comedy (r) (Teletext) (s) (7529234)
12.50 FOUR-MATIONS: Short films (5163692)
1.30 FILM: The Great Waltz (b/w, 1938) Film Biography of the Viennese composer Johann Strauss. Directed by Julien Duvivier (424811)
3.25 FILM: Broadway Melody of 1936 (b/w, 1935) with Eleanor Powell. Classic musical (407296) Ends at **5.15**

SATELLITE AND CABLE

● **For more comprehensive listings of satellite and cable channels, see the Directory, published on Saturday**

SKY 1

7.00am Undun (62833) **9.00** Press Your Luck (5865678) **9.20** Jeopardy! (2965765) **9.45** The Oprah Winfrey Show (3373765) **10.40** Real TV (2291748) **11.10** Sally Jessy Raphael (1925889) **12.00** Geraldo (79036) **1.00pm** One to Three (46307) **3.00** Jenny Jones (85123) **4.00** The Oprah Winfrey Show (646301) **5.00** Star Trek The Next Generation (1982) **6.00** The New Adventures of Superman (68820) **7.00** LAPD (2611) **7.30** MASH (8765) **8.00** Through the Keyhole (8659) **8.30** SouthEnders (1974) **9.00** Intruders (56775) **10.00** Star Trek: The Next Generation (59302) **11.00** The New Adventures of Superman (59369) **12.00** Midnight Caller (23876) **1.00am** LAPD (66186) **1.30** Real TV (14944) **2.00** Hit Mix Long Play (66147)

SKY 2

7.00pm Star Trek: Deep Space Nine (4067307) **8.00** Police Rescue (4063727) **9.00** Blood and Orchids (4068814) **11.00** Late Show with David Letterman (1196458) **12.00 FILM: Knightrider** (2806470) **2.00am** Hit Mix Long Play (3120586)

SKY NEWS

Worldwide news coverage, with bulletins on the hour, 24 hours a day, seven days a week

SKY MOVIES

6.00am The Magnificent Showman (1964) (98409497) **8.20 Swing Time** (1936) (29063456) **10.05 Family Reunion** (1989) (70882291) **12.00 Overboard** (1978) (30746) **2.00pm The Further Adventures of the Wilderness Family** (1978) (99814) **4.00 A Promise to Keep** (1990) (6814) **6.00 Family Reunion** (1989) (12538307) **7.40 US Top 10** (7606611) **8.00 Immortal Beloved** (1994) (3323) **10.00 Disclosure** (1994) (3454562) **12.10am Solitaire for Two** (1994) (758505) **1.55 King David** (1985) (438050) **3.45 Stardust** (1974) (490501)

THE MOVIE CHANNEL

6.00am George White's 1935 Scandals (1935) (8868943) **7.25 Stowaways on the Ark** (7419307) **8.50 Thumbelina** (6288475) **10.00 Smiley Gets a Gun** (1958) (69659) **12.00 Tekwar: Tekfab** (1994) (38388) **2.00pm Big Dreams and Broken Hearts: The Dottie West Story** (1963) (97456) **4.00 Thumbelina** (5993563) **5.10 A Christmas Carol** (1979) (2147299) **6.00 A Home of Our Own** (1994) (59320) **8.00 The Next Karate Kid** (1994) (75214543) **9.45 The Movie Show** (1159920) **10.15 Mrs Parker and the Vicious Circle** (1994) (60657859) **12.25am The Red Shoe Diaries: Double Dare** (1992) (1207081) **2.00 The Doomsday Gun** (1994) (941895) **3.50 Confessions of a Driving Instructor** (1976) (30616383)

SKY MOVIES GOLD

4.00pm April in Paris (1952) (2524) **6.00 Julia** (1977) (2901) **8.00 Project X** (1987) (1456) **10.00 Nuns on the Run** (1990) (82307) **11.40 Spacehunter: Adventures in the Forbidden Zone** (1983) (821830) **1.15am Heller in Pink Tights** (1960) (728857) **3.00 Golden Earrings** (1947) (54012) **4.35-5.10 Sunnyside** (1919) (54456147)

THE DISNEY CHANNEL

Sky Movies Gold takes over at 10pm.
6.00am Bonkers (6304271) **6.25** Mouse Tracks (3354956) **6.50** Darkwing Duck (5226678) **7.15** Quack Attack (7675348) **7.40** Aladdin (4026017) **8.05** Goof Troop (6121562) **8.30** Bonkers (50562) **9.00** Mouse Tracks (41814) **9.30** Lamb Chops Play Along! (88833) **10.00** Muppet Babies (31524) **10.30** Adventures in Wonderland (47098) **11.00** Quack Attack (64678) **11.30** Under the Umbrella Tree (65307) **12.00** Fraggle Rock (61678) **12.30pm** Lamb Chops Play Along! (99949) **1.00** Goof Troop (71630) **1.30** Aladdin (81920) **2.00** Darkwing Duck (4920) **2.30** Best of Walt Disney (1427104) **3.25** Mouse Tracks (6616524) **3.50** Darkwing Duck (2900475) **4.15** Bonkers (2913104) **4.35** Goof Troop (7051122) **5.00** Aladdin (5272) **5.30** Cleavange (2388) **6.00** Crossbow (2901) **6.30** Blossom (3253) **7.00** Home Improvement (5036) **7.30 FILM: Hostage for a Day** (83678) **9.30-10.00** Home Improvement

SKY SPORTS 1

7.00am Sports Centre (19765) **7.30** Wrestling: Superstars (43340) **8.30** Horse Racing (96340) **9.00** Sports Centre (10920) **9.30** Aerobics (24611) **10.00** Rugby Union (61630) **10.30** Golf (16104) **11.00** Futbol Mundial (26494) **11.30** Motor Sport (27123) **12.00** Aerobics (64776) **12.30pm** Boxing (23098) **2.30** American Cavalcade (48123) **3.30** Rugby Union (5833) **4.00** Golf (4340) **4.30** Futbol Mundial (7104) **4.59** Sports Centre (8389682) **5.00** Wrestling: Action Zone (4098) **6.00** Sports Centre (1017) **6.30** Soccer (29814) **7.30** Live Ice Hockey (793253) **10.00** Sports Centre (14235) **10.30** Motor Sport (17833) **11.00** Sailing (18475) **11.30** Fishing: Tight Lines (98543) **12.30am** Sports Centre (14296) **1.00** Soccer (26302) **2.00-2.30** Sports Centre

SKY SPORTS 2

8.00am Tight Lines (8990727) **9.00** Soccer (8993814) **11.00** Soccer Scrapbook (4582122) **12.30am-1.00** Blood, Sweat and Glory (2868298)

SKY SPORTS 3

12.00 In-Line Skating (71010524) **1.00pm** Soccer (71029272) **2.00** Motor Sport (92968630) **2.30** Trans World Sport (59093291) **3.30** Ice Hockey (57153476) **5.00** Soccer (82978017) **6.00** In-Line Skating (71049036) **7.00** Sports Centre (92979748) **7.30** Soccer (97582982) **9.00** Golf: Walt Disney World Classic (54187618) **11.30-12.00** Sports Centre (77984253)

EUROSPORT

7.30am Equestrianism (78036) **8.30** Tennis (21036) **9.00** Cycling (85272) **10.00** Motors (89524) **11.00** Motor Racing (11562) **11.30** Motorcycling (12291) **12.00** Equestrianism (32630) **1.00pm** Eurofun (45384) **1.30** Cycling (52494) **2.00** Live Women's Tennis (28340) **4.00** Motor Sport (77784) **5.00** Live Women's Tennis (595508) **8.00** All Sports (9543) **8.30** Motor Sport (9678) **9.00** Soccer (42920) **11.00** Motor Racing (27253) **11.30** Sailing (52962) **12.00-12.30** Motorcycling

GRANADA PLUS

6.00am Runway (4915746) **8.30** Once Upon a Time (16902185) **8.45** Our Backyard (80141833) **9.00** Alphabet Zoo (21101233) **9.30** The Return of the Antelope (2199630) **9.00** Classic Coronation Street (9972104) **9.30** Runway (9971475) **9.00** Families (9962727) **9.30** Ablion Market (1175104) **10.00** Making It (2908098) **10.30** Leave It to Charlie (9951611) **11.00** Sam (2115878) **12.00** Surgical Spirit (9975291) **12.30pm** Classic Coronation Street (1179920) **1.00** The Practice (2118494) **1.30** Families (1178291) **2.00** Margaret (2909727) **3.00** Leave It to Charlie (79932531) **3.30** Edge of Britain (9888299) **4.00** Love for Lydia (53523340) **5.15** Families (4933302) **6.00** The Army Game (7963863) **6.30** Classic Coronation Street (9983843) **7.00** Ablion Market (7914562) **7.30** Surgical Spirit (3563807) **8.00** Sam (2205659) **9.00** The Good Life Guide (9340630) **9.25** Classic Coronation Street (3839185) **10.00-11.00** Lady Killers
From 11.00pm-2.00am Men and Motors

GRANADA GOOD LIFE

From 6.00am-9.00 TV High Street. Includes consumer news and features and Your Stars presented by Russell Grant
From 9.00-12.00 Food and Wine. Includes recipes and ideas from Delia Smith and Keith Floyd
From 12.00-3.00pm Health and Beauty. Includes Diet and Fitness
From 3.00-6.00 Home and Garden. Includes The Good Life Style Guide

THE HISTORY CHANNEL

4.00pm Biography. John F Kennedy Jnr (8451340) **5.00** The Lost Ark (2727678) **6.00** Stalin (3514833) **7.00-8.00** Biography: Men at Sea Week (8914307)

THE SCI-FI CHANNEL

Films, features and classic series every day from **6pm-4am** Monday to Wednesday and **1am-4am** Thursday to Sunday on satellite, and from **8am-4am** every day on cable
1.00pm Tales of the Unexpected (6545708) **1.30** New Alfred Hitchcock (9042215) **2.00** Alfred Hitchcock Presents (3646566) **2.30** Rod Serling's Night Gallery (3658321) **3.00** Friday the 13th (6597673) **3.55-4.00** Quarks

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TLC/DISCOVERY

9.00am The Joy of Painting (7253369) **9.30** The Garden Show (4295775) **10.00** Two's Country ...(44303881) **10.30** The House (7242253) **11.00** Homemaker (5826123) **11.30** Craftwise (5894524) **12.00** Julia Child (7266803) **12.30pm** Graham Kerr (6008661) **1.00** Yan Can Cook (7824123) **1.30** Home Again, with Bob Vila (7458302) **2.00** Hometime (8827901) **2.30** Garden Club (5633801) **3.00** Rex Hunt's Fishing Adventures (8846036) **3.30-4.00** This Old House (5545746)
DISCOVERY takes over at 4.00pm.
4.00pm Rex Hunt's Fishing Adventures (5524253) **4.30** Bush Tucker Man (5553765) **5.00** Time Travellers (8812853) **5.30** Jurassica (5544017) **6.00** Wild Things: Untamed Africa (5458122) **7.00** Next Step (8838017) **7.30** Arthur C Clarke's Mysterious World (5564484) **8.00** The Professionals (2093659) **9.00** Top Marques 2 (5813699) **9.30** Fighting (6903217) **10.00-12.00** Classic Wheels (5897611)

UK GOLD

7.00am Ladies (7894982) **7.30** Give Us A Clue (7813017) **8.00** Neighbours (5884036) **8.25** EastEnders (5361659) **9.00** The Bill (7255727) **9.30** The Sullivans (8808843) **10.00** One by One (7802801) **11.00** Bullseye (5895253) **11.30** Sale of the Century (5899962) **12.00** Tellystack (7268291) **12.30pm** Neighbours (6283008) **1.00** EastEnders (1327562) **1.35** Never the Twain (9614307) **2.15** Ever Decreasing Circles (3997765) **2.50** Brush Strokes (9276524) **3.30** The Bill (5547104) **4.00** Howards' Way (5819833) **5.00** Bullseye (8810611) **5.30** What a Carry On! (5546475) **6.00** Tellystack (6543885) **6.30** EastEnders (5383524) **7.05** Odd One Out (5211833) **7.45** A Little Bit of Emery (4697388) **8.00** Funny You Ask (8849123) **8.30** Up the Elephant and Round the Castle (8826630) **9.00** The Equalizer (2075253) **10.00** The Bill (5681630) **10.55** The Young Ones (5899869) **11.15** Taggart (1551974) **12.20am** FILM: The Lady Vanishes (3011470) **1.55** Shopping (21991302)

TCC

6.00am Swan's Crossing (3978443) **6.20** No Naked Flames (7934551) **6.45** Degrassi Junior High (143678) **7.15** Ready or Not (133291) **7.45** California Dreams (132562) **8.15** Sweet Valley High (6543869) **8.45** An Attack (8564340) **9.00** Tiny TCC (Until **3.00pm**): Tiny and Crew (97806302) **9.20** Mr Benn (9700494) **9.40** Teddy Trucks (4794475) **9.50** Towser (4790659) **10.00** 10+2 (7654982) **10.20** The Clangers (6485543) **10.40** Bertha (3899036) **11.00** Dinobabies (37524) **11.20** Jim Henson's Animal Show (38253) **12.00** Barney (34524) **12.30pm** Oscar's Orchestra (95123) **1.00** Casper and Friends (84104) **1.20** Tiny and Crew (45338659) **1.55** Mr Benn (77197678) **2.20** Towser (80809494) **2.30** Christopher Crocodile (3409982) **2.40** Bertha (9982272) **3.00** Degrassi Junior High (6901) **3.30** Ready or Not (9291) **4.00** California Dreams (5098) **4.30-5.00** Sweet Valley High (4982)

NICKELODEON

6.00am Teenage Mutant Hero Turtles (99098) **6.30** Biker Mice from Mars (78920) **7.00** Rocko's Modern Life (1024433) **7.15** Hey Arnold (8231562) **7.30** Rugrats (96814) **8.00** Doug (95611) **8.30** Aaahh! Real Monsters (94982) **9.00** Where on Earth is Carmen San Diego (18562) **9



GOLF 48
World's best prepare for final fling

SPORT

SHOOTING STARS 50
Adam back on track after years of trials



THURSDAY OCTOBER 17 1996

Fowler ready for European recall

Liverpool take no risks with Swiss on a roll

FROM PETER BALL IN SION

THERE was a time when a visit to Switzerland in European competition was regarded by English football teams as a bye into the next round, if not a holiday. Liverpool, however, based high in the Alps in preparation for the European Cup Winners' Cup, second-round, first-leg match against FC Sion tonight, have been taking nothing for granted.

Sitting up a mountain in Crans-Montana, looking over the Rhone Valley to the Matterhorn and Mont Blanc, football hardly seems a likely local pursuit, but, in October, with rain rather than snow falling heavily down in the valley in Sion, football is the sport of the moment and the local team is to be taken seriously.

Indeed, Sion are confident and have enlisted the services of their man on Merseyside — Marc Hottiger, the Everton full back, their former player, — who has provided his former club with a breakdown on Liverpool.

"Marc has been very helpful," Dariel Matton, the Sion general manager, said. "We know all about them and their reputation, but we won't be overawed."

With Switzerland holding England at Wembley to a 1-1 draw during the European championship in the summer and Grasshoppers, the Zurich club, inflicting an embarrassing recent defeat on Rangers in the European Cup Champions' League, Swiss football cannot be taken lightly and Roy Evans, the Liverpool manager, and John Barnes, his captain, were at pains yesterday to stress the seriousness of the side's task.

"We have seen them at first hand and this is a dangerous team," Evans said. "We have got to be on our guard."

Sion have drawn with Grasshoppers and beaten Neuchâtel Xâmax, another leading side, in recent weeks and Grasshoppers' success in Europe illustrates their quality. "We don't know much about Sion, but what we heard about their performances against Grasshoppers and Neuchâtel suggests we have got to be careful," Barnes said.

After a stuttering start, Liverpool have improved as the season has progressed, even allowing for the defeat by Manchester United on Saturday. Inside the camp, at least, there was satisfaction in their performance at the weekend, if not in their finishing.

That would be improved if Robbie Fowler returns from his ankle injury. Provided that he does not feel any reaction from training yesterday, he is expected to be fit and the decision whether to recall him represents Evans's main problem. If he does so, it will presumably be at the expense of Stan Collymore.

After losing at Old Trafford, where Collymore had a subdued match, that may seem a straightforward decision, but, if Liverpool are to play a typical game of containment and counter-attack, the power of Collymore's running will not be discarded lightly.

Liverpool are certainly aware of the importance of an away goal. "As we found out when we played Brondby last year, 0-0 is not always a good result away from home," Barnes said. "The idea is to go out there and get an away goal. Obviously, we don't want to go out and score and then lose 3-1, but an away goal is always vital in Europe."

Liverpool are unlikely to be exposed in the same way that Newcastle United were at Ferencvaros in Hungary on Tuesday. There may be different views about their system with three central defenders, but, provided that Dominic Matteo is fit, they are now looking better balanced than last year and, as well as Matteo, Phil Babb is also looking the part.

"I think it's the most consistent I've played for Liverpool," Babb said. "I've played well in the past, but I have been more steady this season and I am smiling all the time."

Beardsley owns up, page 47
Grim for Aberdeen, page 47

Players prepare to take strike action

A STRIKE by players in the three divisions of the Nationwide League appears to be imminent (Russell Kempson writes). The result of a ballot organised by the Professional Footballers' Association is due to be announced in two days' time and it is believed that the players have voted overwhelmingly in favour of a strike.

If they have, it would affect, at least initially, all televised matches in the Nationwide League. Grimsby Town's home match with Sheffield United on Sunday, November 3, could see the start of the industrial action, with players refusing to play unless cameras are withdrawn.

Since the Football League decided that the PFA should receive only a "discretionary" payment from television revenue, instead of its traditional 10 per cent, the two organisations have been at loggerheads. Lengthy negotiations have proved fruitless and, having taken legal advice, the League claims that a strike would be unlawful.



MARC ASPLAND

Hill was too exhausted to perform the ritual champagne celebrations yesterday

Hill finds the bottle for a final photocall

BY OLIVER HOLT

THE biggest crowd since it used to be called Tyburn, and people flocked there to watch hangings, gathered at Marble Arch, in central London, yesterday. This, though, was no kind of gallows entertainment. This was the latest stage in the anointment of Damon Hill, the Formula One world drivers' champion.

Hill, who had been reunited with his children on Tuesday night after his flight home from Tokyo, dutifully posed for ranks of photographers in front of the edifice that was originally intended to be the entrance gate to Buckingham Palace. He spread his arms wide when they asked him to, waved at passengers on the double-decker buses that were making their way round from Park Lane to the Edgware Road, and sat on a Williams-Renault with his wife, Georgie. "Come on, cuddle," the photographers shouted.

The first sign that Hill's strength is being sapped by the endless round of celebrations that have followed his victory in the Japanese Grand Prix on Sunday, which secured the title, came when he could not pop the cork of a magnum of champagne. A smaller bottle was pressed into service instead.

From Marble Arch, and an impromptu autograph-signing session for some of the hundreds who had turned up to watch and applaud, Hill headed down Oxford Street to Selfridge's and a press conference in the Premier Restaurant. "Good food in impeccable surroundings," it said. There is not much more that Hill can say now about how he feels after winning his first world championship, but he had a good try all the same.

"It is a bit like putting your feet up after Christmas dinner," Hill said. "I have not come down off this one yet. I am just looking forward to soaking this feeling up for a bit longer. I have not had much sleep in the last few days, but right now I do not feel tired; just elated. It is almost as if I am super-charged. I got up at four o'clock this morning because I just did not feel like sleeping and I am still going strong.

"It feels as though various layers are slowly coming off and I am beginning to realise what has happened. Just now, someone presented me with a copy of *Autosport* with my picture and the word 'Champion' on the cover. I have seen my name gradually creep further to the front of the magazine over the years, but I feel like going down to the newsagents and buying up all the copies."

Hill went on to talk a little about his future with TWR Arrows, all the challenges that lay ahead and his hope that he and his new team might surprise a few people next season. Of Frank Williams's decision to sack him at the end of the season, he said it was "not quite the pat on the back I had hoped for. It rather pulled the rug out from under me".

His first title, he said, had left him with an intense feeling of satisfaction. Even though it was nothing to do with emerging from the shadow of his late father, Graham, who won the title in 1962 and 1968, he admitted that he would be able to enjoy his career more from now on.

"Nothing will ever match up to winning the title for the first time," Hill said, "but from now on, it is going to be a little bit easier to enjoy things. It is in the record books. It is down there for ever. I have achieved what I set out to achieve.

"I have read about this idea that I am trying to live up to my father's image and I don't know where it comes from. I have never been in competition with my father. I simply adored him. He died 21 years ago. That is a long time. I have long since handled that emotion."

Rusedski's victory sets up Henman clash

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

TIM HENMAN and Greg Rusedski are poised for their first confrontation this year at the Czech indoor tournament in Ostrava today. Great Britain's leading tennis players will meet in the second round after Rusedski defeated George Bastl, a qualifier from Switzerland, 6-4, 7-6 yesterday.

Henman, the British No 1, beat Nicklas Kulti, of Sweden, on Monday, and will face Rusedski for the first time since he beat him 1-6, 6-3, 6-2 in the final of the British national championships in Telford last November. At that time, Rusedski was the British No 1 and was expected to win. Since then, the tables have turned and Henman, ranked 26th in the world and seeded No 7 for the Czech event, will start as favourite.

However, Rusedski, whose world ranking slumped from an all-time high of 33 in January to 84 two weeks ago, has been in outstanding form during the past fortnight.

He began his recovery by reaching the semi-final of the Heineken Classic in Singapore, a performance which ensured that his world ranking improved nine places to 75.



Rusedski: beat qualifier

He then won his first ATP Tour event since changing his allegiance from Canada to Britain last year when he beat Martin Damm, of the Czech Republic, in the final of the Peking Open at the weekend, a victory which enabled him to climb a further 22 rungs up the ranking ladder to 53.

Sam Smith yesterday celebrated her first win on home soil since she became the British No 1 a fortnight ago. Smith defeated Sofia Pzareres, of Portugal, 6-3, 6-3 in the first round of the Texaco Ladies Challenge at Cardiff and will now face Eva Martancova, of the Czech Republic.

Clare Wood, deposed by Smith as British No 1, will meet the top seed, Elena Wagner, of Germany. Wagner beat Claire Taylor, of Oxfordshire, 6-2, 6-3. Smith and Wood will clash in the quarter-finals if they win their second-round matches today.

☐ Pete Sampras made a successful start to his challenge for the Marlboro Hong Kong Championships yesterday, beating Grant Connell, of Canada, 6-4, 6-2 in silver group.

Dancing into the danger zone

Injuries soar as competition in the ballroom hots up, **Ruth Gledhill** reveals

One of the biggest international ballroom dancing events enters its third and final day today with a record number of injuries reported by dancers as young as 13 years old. One competitor, an English teenager and one of the country's top dancers, was sent to hospital as an emergency with a foot injury inflicted during a foxtrot. Others were winded, knocked and kicked by rival dancers as they fought for first places across Latin and modern dances, including waltz, tango, samba, cha-cha-cha and rumba.

The casualty rate at the 44th Elsa Wells International, at the Brentwood Leisure Centre this week, is being cited as further evidence that ballroom dancing has developed into a sport comparable with rugby, football and athletics for the demands that it makes in terms of stamina, fitness and competitiveness. In another recent competition, the Open British, at Blackpool, first-aiders treated 138 injured dancers over five days, a record for that event. Elsewhere, lacerations to the legs have been caused by the flashing high heels of the women as they spin, turn or perform leg-kicks.

Dance-inflicted ailments in Blackpool included fractured arms and ribs, and a collarbone dislocated during the tango. Graham Miles, the first-aid consultant for dancers, said: "Because they are all trying to make the finals, they are putting everything into it and being injured as a result. The days of courtesy and floorcraft on the dancefloor have gone."

With 850 couples dancing in continuous heats across three days, with the finals today at the Albert Hall, casualties are inevitable and yesterday injuries requiring Miles's attention were averaging two an hour. Miles said: "The most serious injury was when one of our English couples was dancing the foxtrot. Another girl stood on her foot and did a heel turn, right on her toe. It came right up, and we sent her straight to hospital. We haven't heard yet whether she's well enough to dance at the Albert Hall today."

Raju Arulanantham, the Canadian over-35s senior champion, who dances with his wife, Lorraine, saw his ankle swell up like a balloon after a rival kicked him accidentally during the cha-cha-cha. "I carried on dancing, but I could feel the foot swelling, the shoe getting tighter," he said. Expert massage and a bag of ice left him fit to continue, however.

Some dancers also suffer stress-induced headaches and faintness because of nerves brought on by all-day competitions and the pressure to succeed.

Rugby tops the sports injuries table, with football second and hockey third. About 6.4 million people in England need treatment for sports injuries each year, with 1.4 million taking an average of six days off work to recover.

Like most athletes, dancers will, as a rule, continue dancing through an injury, however, the adrenalin of a competition countering even severe pain. Miles, who dances with his wife, Liz, an aromatherapist, is employed as a first-aid specialist at most top dance championships.

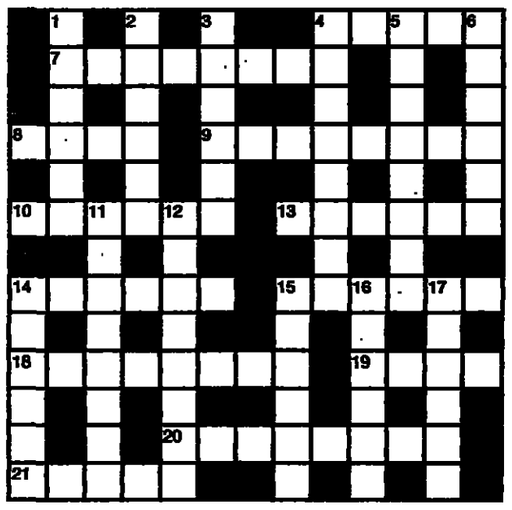
He began treating dancers two years ago when dancing in the senior rankings in a competition organised by Bill Phillips, the promoter, also at Brentwood. "We were dancing, and my wife saw a man go down," he said. "We carried on dancing, but nobody was helping him, so we stopped and rushed over."

The competitor had had a heart attack. Miles used his specialist skills and spent 20 minutes resuscitating him, eventually saving his life. Phillips has since made sure that Miles is on hand at most top events, and he is also used by Bobby Short, the promoter of the International, and others. "The dancers know me, so they might come to me early with a problem that they wouldn't take to a stranger," he said. This means that potential problems can sometimes be detected early.

Ballroom dancing is recognised provisionally as an Olympic sport. Full recognition is expected in June.

TIMES TWO CROSSWORD

No 915 in association with BRITISH MIDLAND



ACROSS
4 Up to now (2,3)
7 Land of tiny people *(Swift)* (8)
8 Blow on the wind (4)
9 Walter —, 20C esp. children's poet (2,2,4)
10 Language of the OT (6)
13 Portray (6)
14 Dark, gloomy (6)
15 Constrictor snake (6)
18 Reached (8)
19 Western military alliance (1,1,1,1)
20 Possessive case (8)
21 Eur. city: husband chosen for Juliet (5)

DOWN
1 Liquid shortfall in eg cask (6)
2 Roofer; severe critic (6)
3 Opening for light (6)
4 Grand plan (8)
5 Bizarrely unusual (8)
6 Not long ago (6)
11 Pour tea (2,6)
12 Income from work (8)
14 Big, good (meal) (4-2)
15 Language mixture of eg traders (6)
16 Real, table, game (6)
17 The beginning (6)

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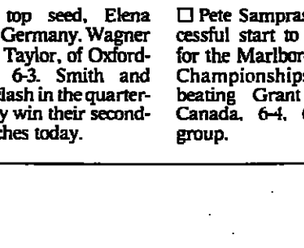
Post your entry to Times Two Crossword, PO Box 6886, London E2 8SP to arrive by next Monday. The winners' names and solution will appear on Wednesday.

Name/Address .....

.....

SOLUTION TO NO 914
ACROSS: 1 Rainbow 5 Dais 9 Diver 10 Realise 11 Right-hand man 12 Pre-war 13 Infamy 16 Overshadowed 19 Animist 20 Debug 21 Cite 22 Coracle
DOWN: 1 Ride 2 Invoice 3 Birthday suit 4 Worthy 6 Axiom 7 Sternly 8 Cannon fodder 12 Prosaic 14 Alembic 15 Baltic 17 Evict 18 Ogle

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